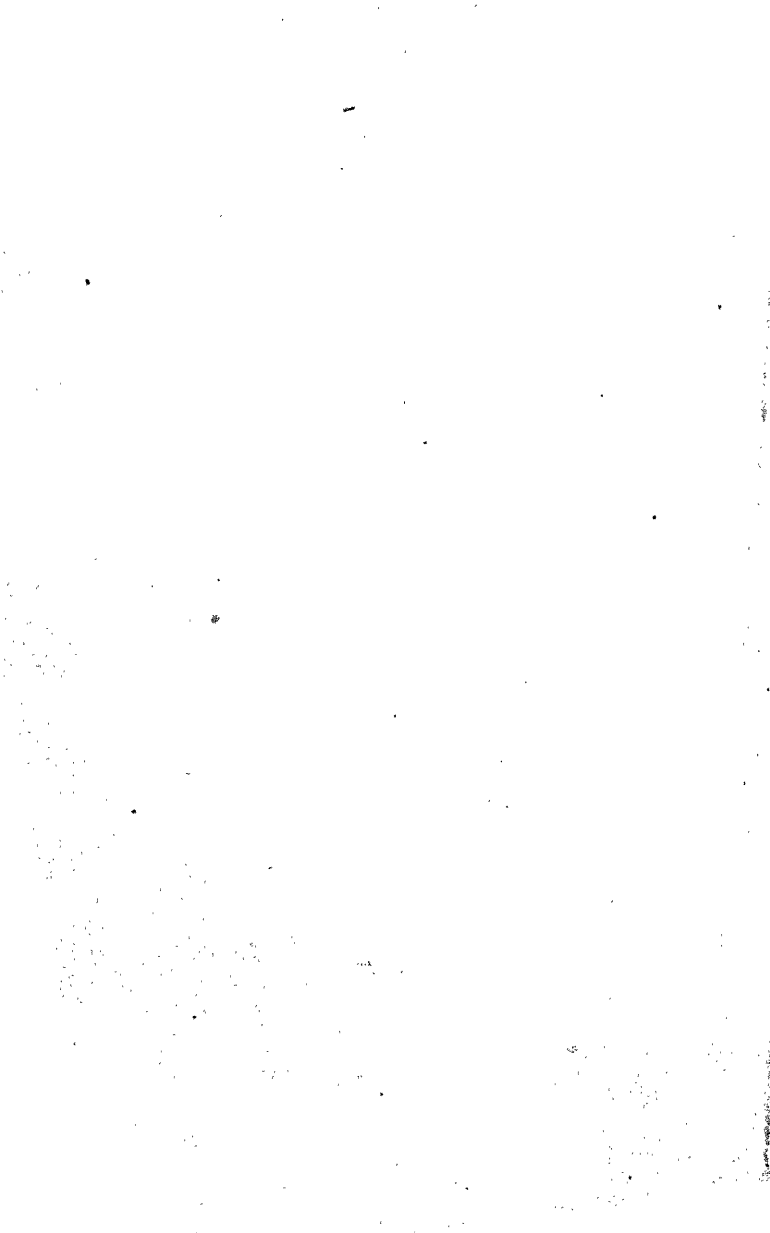


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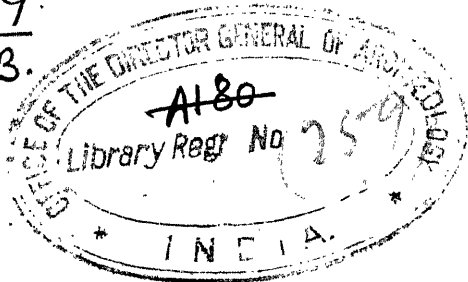


THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.
THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.
JUNE 1903.

31775

"DO NOT LET US TALK THEN
OF RESTORATION: THE THING
IS A LIE FROM BEGINNING TO
END."—JOHN RUSKIN.

913.09.
S.P.A.B.



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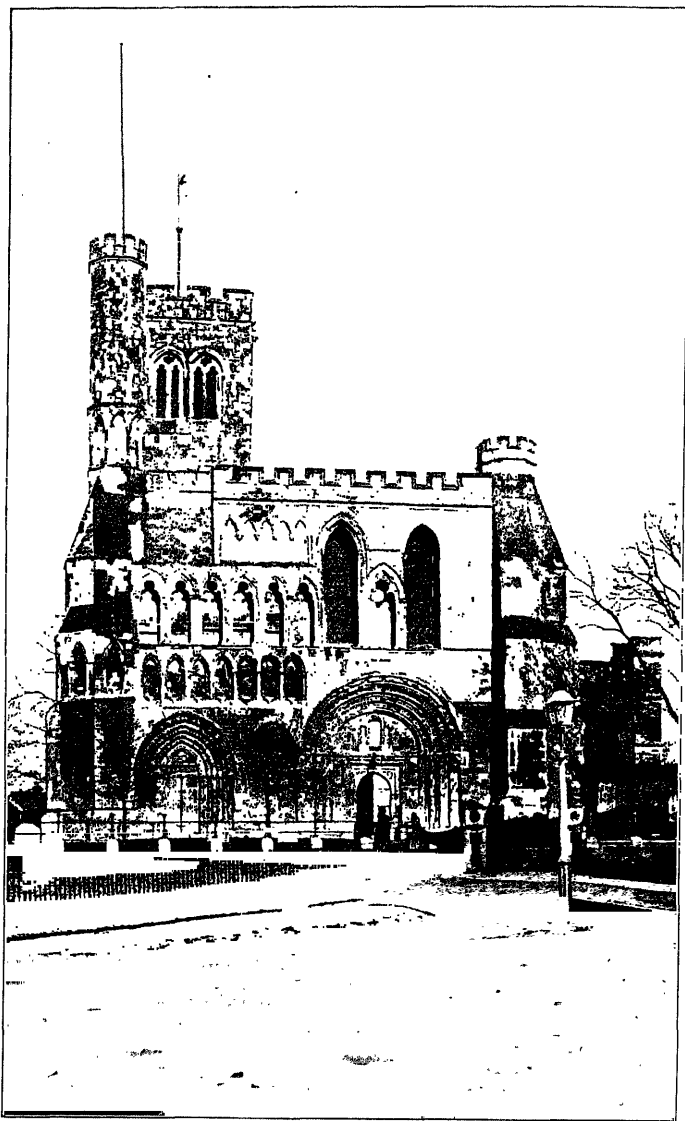
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WEST FRONT, DUNSTABLE PRIORY CHURCH, BEDS.

Before restoration

ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Committee has much pleasure in laying before the members of the Society the following notes on some of the cases which have received its attention during the past year.

Our members are probably aware that the Committee has published a small book entitled *Notes on the Repair of Ancient Buildings*. Much time and thought have been given to the subject, and it is hoped that it will not only make the Society's principles and objects better known, but also give material help in the difficult task of saving ancient buildings from the ravages of time, without serious loss to their genuine qualities.

It is published at one shilling net in wrapper, or eighteenpence net half bound, and can be obtained direct from the Society or from Mr. B. T. Batsford, 94, High Holborn.

Astley Church, Worcestershire.

This interesting building was examined by two professional members of the Society, and, as the works proposed were thought to be, to a considerable extent, in

opposition to the principles of the Society, a letter was addressed to the Rector upon the subject.

The Rector in his reply stated that some of the proposals to which objections were raised, as, for example, the raising of the pitch of the nave roof (either by the removal of the present fifteenth century roof, or by building a modern roof on the back of the present one), and the removal of the Blount tombs, would not be proceeded with.

The Committee regrets that some other proposals which it thinks unwise are retained, but nevertheless it considers that some good has resulted from the Society's action and it can only hope that the building will, when the works have been carried out, retain much of the interest which it now possesses.

The Erechtheion, Athens.

Doubtless many of the members of the Society are interested in the works which are being carried out at the Erechtheion, and therefore we give a short *résumé* of the principles which, in its opinion, should govern the treatment of such buildings.

The Society thinks it most desirable that where (as in the case of the Erechtheion) stones have been displaced from a building, and can be restored to their original position without endangering the stability of the structure, this should be done. It is also of opinion that it is permissible to use iron girders if absolutely necessary to save a building from collapse. But if the replacing

of fallen stones makes it necessary to support the additional weight by means of girders which would otherwise not be wanted, and still more, if it involves the removal of ancient work and the substitution of new work in its place as is contemplated in the case of some of the drums of the Erechtheion columns, the Society thinks that the replacing of scattered stones is unjustifiable.

With regard to the Caryatid porch on the south side of the Erechtheion, the view of the Society is as follows. If there were any prospect of regaining the original statue from the British Museum, that would be a right and a welcome solution. Secondly, those in charge of the repairs to the building in former years should, in the absence of the statue, have been content to support the architrave with a column of plain stone or a balk of timber. But the present terra-cotta figure, ugly as it may be, is clearly unmistakable, and therefore infinitely preferable to a modern imitation in sculptured marble.

Basingwerk Abbey, Flints.

Very small fragments of the Abbey Church now exist, but there are considerable remains of the domestic offices.

The most interesting fragment is a portion of the west wall of the south transept, which contains the archway from the south aisle and one window. There is also a part of the respond which terminated the south nave arcade. Next in importance is what was probably the Chapter House, and further south a piece of the east wall of the Dormitory and the apartments beneath it.

A fragment of the doorway from the transept to the Dormitory floor exists.

The buildings seem to have been erected in the thirteenth century—the Dormitory windows are simple lancets.

The ruins, which are private property, are in urgent need of repair and support.

The Flintshire County Council appointed a Committee to consider the advisability of trying to obtain a lease of the ruins from the Owner, but owing to the Architect recommending that £1,200 should be spent upon them, the Council decided to take no further action. We understand that although the Owner was unwilling to sell he was prepared to offer a long lease.

As the Committee gathered from a professional member of the Society that the cost of all the repairs and supports necessary to arrest the progress of decay (or rather the falling to pieces) of what remains of the Abbey buildings, need not exceed £250 or £300, it asked the County Council to reconsider the matter. A reply was received asking if the Society would be prepared to assist financially in carrying out the work, but as, unfortunately, the Society has not sufficient funds at its disposal to give pecuniary aid in such a case, it had to inform the Council to this effect.

The Committee has received no definite answer from the County Council that it proposes to reconsider the matter and therefore it fears there is little probability of its taking any further action to bring about the preservation of the ruins.

The Old Palace, Bishop's Waltham, Hants.

This subject has been before the Society since the year 1890, and it was referred to in the report for 1891.

In July of last year the Dowager Lady Jenner asked the Society to visit the ruins, as she was desirous of doing what she could to preserve them.

It was therefore arranged for a professional member to visit, and as a result, a report was prepared and forwarded to Lady Jenner, who has agreed to the recommendations contained in it being carried into effect. The works of repair are now in hand under the supervision of the Society, and we hope to give a description of them in the next report.

The Committee feels sure that all who appreciate the great educational and artistic value of such ruins will be glad to learn that they are being dealt with in a manner which, while preserving their authentic character, will also strengthen them structurally and thus prolong their existence.

Bosham Church, Sussex.

This building is so well known that it is not necessary for us to give any description of it.

The Committee has been in correspondence with the Vicar and the Architects upon the subject of the repairs which are needed for structural reasons and also for rendering the church better fitted for the purpose it has to serve.

The following letter which the Society addressed to the Vicar will explain the result of the action it has taken.

BOSHAM CHURCH, SUSSEX.

24th April, 1903.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings has very carefully considered Messrs Colson, Farrow and Nisbett's proposals for dealing with your church.

It is completely satisfied that the best treatment possible is to be followed, and although it is aware that the large amount of underpinning proposed will be costly, it is convinced that it is absolutely necessary for the preservation of the building.

I remain, Rev. and dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

REV. K. H. MACDERMOTT.

The Committee hopes to deal more fully with this important building in its next report.

Ancient Church, Brockhampton, Herefordshire.

The Society learnt from the public press that a new church had been erected at Brockhampton, and as it was known that the ancient church was a building of considerable value the Committee naturally became anxious as to its fate.

A letter was therefore addressed to the Squire asking for information upon the subject. Mr. Foster replied that the Society need have no fears as to the fate of the old church, for one of his reasons for not enlarging it was that by so doing much of the old church would have been lost sight of. He added that the building

will be allowed to remain as it is, and that a small fund is being collected, the interest on which will be available for keeping the old church in repair. A further reason for building a new church on another site was that the accommodation was quite inadequate for the population and that the old graveyard is full.

The Committee is thankful that this little building is in charge of those who so fully appreciate its value, and it is especially glad that provision has been made for its upkeep. Many valuable ancient buildings have, in somewhat similar circumstances, been allowed to go to ruin.

Bury Church, Sussex.

It was not until the works at this church were actually in hand that the Society heard of the proposed restoration of the building. A professional correspondent living within a few miles of the building, visited it on behalf of the Society, but unfortunately the Vicar was from home when he called upon him. The Committee therefore addressed a letter to the Vicar, who replied to the effect that he would gladly consider any suggestions made to him, and adopt them if possible. Our correspondent was good enough to again visit the building, when he met the Vicar. As a result of their interview some suggestions of a practical nature were made, and these the Vicar has promised shall be adopted.

It is a matter for congratulation that even in a case where to all appearances it was too late for the Society to take action with good results, it has been able to give

assistance to those in authority, for it is such help that the Society is most anxious to render.

Chillington and Cudworth Churches, Somerset.

These two buildings are under the same Incumbency, the livings of Cudworth and Chillington being united.

The Society asked the Vicar for information as to works proposed to be carried out to Cudworth Church, and he very kindly allowed the Committee to see the Architect's plans and specification and at the same time stated that if the Society saw its way to make an examination and report upon Chillington Church he should be grateful.

Both churches were visited and some suggestions made with regard to the works proposed at Cudworth. These the Vicar promised to use his influence to get carried out.

With reference to Chillington Church it is not proposed to do anything for some time to come. In the meantime the Society's report will be considered by the Vicar, who has already informed the Committee that he follows it quite clearly and with much satisfaction.

Compton Church, Hants.

The little church at Compton near Winchester is an early Norman building with an early Decorated chancel, and contains some interesting memorials.

Rumours reached the Society to the effect that various proposals had been made to meet the requirements of a new district which is being opened up at Shawford.

Among the suggestions made for meeting the difficulty was one for the enlargement of the church and another for building an additional church. Now the Society is anxious to avoid the enlargement of ancient churches unless it happens that the needs of the parish can be met in no other way, and in this case it seemed to the Committee that as a great increase of population was expected at Shawford eventually, the right course to adopt was to erect a new building there. At the same time if this is done it is important that some provision should be made for the maintenance of the ancient church. In reply to enquiries made by the Society on this point, the Rector has informed the Committee that there is no proposal to make a new church (if built) the parish church, but to retain the old one as such and to have some of the services in the new one, which will be more adjacent to the new district. He further added that all offertories and other money coming to the Churchwardens must first satisfy the needs of the old church, and that the Rector is responsible for the chancel.

From the information which the Society at present possesses, the Committee has no reason to fear that there is any danger either of the building being injured by futile enlargement, or of its being allowed to fall into decay, in the event of another church being erected.

St. Paul's Cray Church, Kent.

At the request of the Custodians this building was visited on behalf of the Society and a report setting

forth the nature of the works necessary for putting it into a proper structural condition provided.

The church consists of a chancel, nave, with north and south chapels, south aisle and western tower.

The chancel, nave and aisle are of thirteenth century work. The south chapel is in a similar style but has been very much "restored," if not wholly rebuilt. The north chapel and western tower are of earlier date and shew indications of Norman work. On the north side of the nave there are the remains of two bays of an old arcade, now built up and with Tudor windows inserted. There are no traces of the north aisle remaining.

The south arcade consists of three bays of thirteenth century date, with carved capitals of uncommon and beautiful design.

The Authorities expressed their approval of the Society's proposals and the works of repair, etc., have been carried out under its auspices. These included the repointing of stonework, stripping some of the roofs, renewing the battens and rehangng the tiles, the repair and renewal of gutters and down pipes, and similar works.

It should be added that after the Society's representative had paid his final visit to the building some minor works were done for which the Society is not responsible.

Dunstable Priory Church, Bedfordshire.

The Society was informed by a correspondent that when he visited this building recently the whole of the west front (a view of which we give) was covered with

scaffolding and its most beautiful feature, the noble thirteenth century arcade (illustrated in Prior's *Gothic Art in England*), had been replaced by a new arcade.

The Committee asked a professional correspondent to visit the Church and his report confirms the information received by the Society.

A modern arcade has been substituted for the ancient one, the usual excuse being made that the old work was hopelessly bad and could not be treated otherwise. It is stated "that all old stones *where possible* have been re-used," but our professional correspondent says "it is difficult to find these."

It is most lamentable to find that such destructive work has been permitted, the more so as we understand that the lower part of the front, with its beautiful fragments of twelfth century sculpture, will be treated in a similar manner as soon as funds are available for the purpose.

Surely such work is vandalism of the worst kind, and we should have thought that the authorities would, at least, have attempted to preserve some of the work which has been renewed.

Exeter Cathedral.

In addition to removing the interesting west window of Exeter Cathedral, the Dean and Chapter propose thoroughly to restore the beautiful west front.

The following letter from the Society which appeared in the *Times* and other papers fully explains the position of affairs.

SIR,

There is a very important question which must come before the public sooner or later. Most people must be aware that there is a proposal to remove the existing stained glass from the grand west window of Exeter Cathedral in order to substitute modern stained glass as a memorial to the late Archbishop of Canterbury. The Society of Antiquaries has publicly protested; Professor Lethaby (in the March number of the *Architectural Review*) has alluded with regret to the probable "sacrifice" of this very interesting window. We entirely sympathize with these protests and regrets, and do not wish in any way to minimize the importance of this question when we say that there is another question larger and more important still.

At the beginning of this year it was stated in the public Press that the whole west front of Exeter Cathedral is to be taken in hand. It has become obvious by this time that the Dean and Chapter of Exeter intend to pay no attention to the reasonable plea put forth by the Society of Antiquaries. It is therefore all the more important to call on the nation to consider gravely this further and bigger danger which is threatened. If the stonework is to be treated in the same spirit as the glass and the bells, it is to be feared that it will be subjected to that terrible process called "restoration" which removes the authentic artistic and picturesque qualities of ancient architecture.

My Society has asked the Dean and Chapter whether they intend to let the public know what will be done before the work is put in hand, and they have replied that, "having taken the opinion of a competent authority for their guidance, they must decline to share their responsibility with any irresponsible authority." They were not asked to inform this Society alone, but the public at large, of their intentions; and it seems that they definitely decline to do so.

Now the west front of Exeter Cathedral is one of the finest in the country, and one of the very few which have

on the whole escaped the "restorer." It is true that some new stonework in imitation of original work has made its appearance in recent years; but still the Exeter west front may on the whole be taken as an authentic piece of mediaeval architecture. Those who have seen it know its grandeur. If the process already begun is continued, this noble work will be lost to us.

It is the duty of this Society to watch over our ancient buildings. It will be too late to call attention to the proposed work after it is accomplished, and we feel that the public should be roused at once to a sense of the threatened danger.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

April 15th.

The Guildhall, Exeter.

Some two years has elapsed since the crumbling stone of this building was treated with limewash by the Society, and we are now able to judge of the result.

The building has recently been inspected and it has been found that the effect of the limewash which was put on the ancient stone has proved to be most satisfactory.

This is only a confirmation of the Society's experience, but there is one point that should be noted. It is essential that the limewash should be renewed from time to time, for the products of combustion in the air will attack and destroy the lime which has been put on and then begin again to attack the stone.

Of course it is not necessary to do this re-washing in

a wholesale way, but only on such portions as are beginning to fail. Thus any startling effect or change can be avoided, and if necessary a little colouring matter (ochre) may be added to the limewash.

Haddington Church, N.B.

In the report for 1900 (p. 19) we stated that a gentleman had offered to restore the ruined portions of this church (which is generally known as Haddington Abbey), but as some of the more important heritors were opposed to the scheme for restoration, it was hoped that it would be abandoned.

Unfortunately the Office of Works, whose permission had to be obtained before the works could proceed, gave its consent to the proposals. Before the works could be started, however, the gentleman who had promised to subscribe the large sum needed, died, and as he did not make provision in his will for the amount to be paid, a difficulty arose. He had expressed his intention of giving the money conditionally on the heritors being unanimous in authorising the Kirk Session to proceed with the work. Several of the heritors opposed the scheme, and the Trustees of the Estate came to the conclusion that they were not justified in paying the amount needed to carry it out.

Thus the building is, we hope, saved from restoration—a most fortunate escape.

Haselbury Bryan Church, Dorset.

At the request of His Grace the Duke of Northumber-

land, conveyed through the Rector, this church was visited on behalf of the Society and a report and estimate were prepared.

The church is a very complete specimen of fifteenth century work, which evidently began with the building of the tower, followed by the nave with its north aisle, then the chancel, and lastly the south aisle with its porch.

In the sixteenth century the south aisle was lengthened and a chapel formed at its east end and possibly at the same time the aisle received its present richly moulded sixteenth century timber roof.

The nave, north aisle and chancel have very fine plaster roofs of high pitch, ribbed and panelled and with shields at the intersection of the ribs. There is some very fine old stained glass in the heads of the windows of the north aisle and chapel. The font is Norman.

The building is in urgent need of repair, and it would cost a considerable sum to do the necessary works.¹

The Society's report was sent to the Rector and by him forwarded to the Duke of Northumberland.

St. Cybi's Church Tower, Holyhead, Anglesey.

This is an interesting tower badly in need of repair. The Society had its attention called to it by the Architect in whose hands the responsibility of putting the building in repair has been placed. He very kindly allowed the Society to see his drawings and specification, and the Committee is glad to say it has little doubt that the work will be successfully carried out.

The Committee is gratified at being consulted by an

Architect in this friendly manner. It holds the opinion that no ancient building should be dealt with entirely on the responsibility of one man, and therefore it is hoped that as time goes on architects may more and more follow the course adopted in this case.

Lady Place, Hurley, near Marlow, Berks.

The Society was informed by a correspondent that locally it was believed that the particularly valuable buildings known as Lady Place had been leased to a London gentleman who contemplated turning the refectory into a billiard room with bedrooms over. The Secretary called upon the lawyers having the matter in hand and at their suggestion the Society's views were forwarded to them in writing.

It was pointed out that it was hardly conceivable that this ancient building could be adapted to modern domestic purposes, much less a billiard room, without serious loss of interest.

Although the Society did not hear from the lawyers, it believes they handed the letter conveying its views to the new owner. We understand that he fully appreciates the value of the buildings from the historical and architectural points of view, and has no intention of interfering with the refectory except by way of repair.

The Committee is glad to be able to make this report as it will be a relief to many who are especially interested in Lady Place, but of course it would be still more satisfactory had we heard from the owner and been promised an opportunity of expressing an opinion upon

any works of repair which may from time to time be done.

Knighton-on-Teme Church, Worcestershire.

A report on this church was made in 1884 and sent to the Authorities. At that time the body of the building was unrestored.

The present Vicar early last year asked the Society to visit and advise as to a proposal to build a new chancel for which plans had been prepared. In accordance with this request two members who had seen the church on a previous occasion visited on behalf of the Society.

It was found that several of the works which had been carried out in 1884 were such as the Society would have opposed.

The chancel was, with the nave, built in the twelfth century, and retains a considerable amount of Norman work. The east wall was rebuilt in comparatively modern times for a height of about 8ft. from the ground, as well as portions of the north and south walls, but the old base moulding continues right round the east end, on the north side is an original Norman buttress, and there are evidences, under the plaster, of what is probably a Norman window.

The chancel arch is a very good example of early Norman work, and has on each side a blank arcade of two small arches under an enclosing arch of semicircular shape. There are three shafts to the arcade, with capitals and bases, and the chancel arch has two bold nook-shafts with cushioned capitals.

Two windows in the south wall of the chancel are plain rectangular apertures, but one, in the corner against the nave wall, is probably of the sixteenth or seventeenth century and the larger window is of the eighteenth century. The altar rails and altar table are of oak and belong to the seventeenth century.

Our members were shewn by the Vicar a report and plans for a new chancel which it was proposed to build in place of the existing chancel. It was also proposed to cut through the shallow Norman recesses in the east wall of the nave.

The Committee in forwarding its recommendations to the Vicar pointed out that however good a design for a new chancel might be, it could not harmonise with the present venerable nave, and that if the necessities of the parish made a larger chancel desirable, it was the duty of the Custodians of the building to retain, when enlarging it, as much of the old chancel as was possible. The Committee added that it thought it quite easy to repair the present chancel while retaining all its ancient character, and with this in view it recommended that the roof should be examined by removing the tiles, and repaired and strengthened where necessary.

All the oak fittings and the gravestones in the pavement it urged should be carefully retained.

It strongly opposed the cutting through of the blind arcade on each side of the chancel arch.

As a result of the Society's advice fresh plans were made with a view to preserving as much as possible of the old chancel. The Vicar very kindly allowed the

Committee to see the revised scheme, and it is glad to be in a position to report that the later proposals were, from the Society's point of view, a great improvement upon the first scheme, for except on one or two points no objection could, in the circumstances, be raised to what is proposed.

The Vicar has thanked the Society for its help in the matter. It is always anxious to give such assistance, for as the custodians of our ancient buildings have in many cases not made the subject a special study, the Society can often, with its long experience, give advice which is of considerable value to the Authorities in helping them to come to a right decision.

The Grammar School, Lichfield.

New buildings have been erected to take the place of those which until recently had been used for the purposes of the school. The school-room was erected about the year 1850, but the Master's House is an ancient building of considerable interest.

The old school buildings, together with the Master's House, were sold by public auction. The Committee is glad to be in a position to report that, from enquiries it has made, it has good reason to believe there is no probability of the premises being pulled down.

Little Oakley Church, Essex.

This case, a note upon which appeared in the report for 1899, exemplifies one of the difficulties with which the Society has to contend.

In 1896 the Rector informed the Society that a rumour

as to a proposal to destroy the building was untrue, but in 1898 he told the Committee that a statement in the *Church Builder*, to the effect that it was proposed to build a new church on a fresh site and to retain only a portion of the old building, was accurate. As the Society pointed out then, it would have been better to have allowed the building to become a ruin than wilfully to destroy it, for so long as it remained standing, there was hope that it might have been repaired.

However we learnt at a later date that this scheme had been abandoned in favour of one for the restoration of the ancient church.

A description of the works which have been carried out has appeared in the public press. From this it appears that the west end of the building has been entirely rebuilt with the exception of some of the steeple walls, and the chancel roof reconstructed. The interior has been refitted throughout in oak, and four new windows, with "cathedral" glass, have been fixed in the nave. Externally new buttresses have been erected and the roof re-tiled. The next section of the restoration scheme comprises the rebuilding of the steeple, the addition of two bells, and the erection of a vestry on the north side of the church.

It will be seen that the building as it now exists has practically ceased to be the work of the mediaeval builders and can possess but little interest to the student of art and history, for the greater part of the ancient work has been destroyed, and even the small amount that remains has been overpowered with modern imitative work.

Long Bennington Church, Lincolnshire.

In some cases, in spite of all that the Society can do, there appears to be no probability of its being able to persuade those in authority to reconsider a decision once it has been arrived at. The Committee feared this would be so in the case of Long Bennington Church.

In the 1899 report we printed a letter from the Society which had been published in the local press. It was then proposed to rebuild the ancient church on another site, which would have meant that the building would cease to be the work of the original builders and become a modern erection.

Although a large proportion of the population was opposed to the scheme, there seemed to be little likelihood of its being given up. However, the opposition was persisted in and as a result the Committee is glad to be able to report that the proposal to rebuild has been abandoned. But the church is to be restored, and it is to be feared will lose in interest in the process.

The Society has visited the building and communicated with the Vicar and the Churchwardens, suggesting modifications in the proposed works, and it may be the suggestions will be listened to. In any case the result in this case is better than the Committee at one time thought to be possible.

London Houses, Smith Square, Westminster.

The destruction of ancient buildings in London of late years has been most regrettable. It may be that a large

proportion of the demolition which has taken place could not be avoided. It is therefore all the more important that where it is not essential for purposes of public utility to remove interesting buildings, such removal should not be permitted.

The houses in Smith Square are a case in point. The London County Council has acquired these interesting buildings, as well as some houses in North Street, in connexion with the Council's Westminster Improvement Scheme. Now it is certainly not essential that they should be destroyed for the purposes of the improvement, and the Society can see no reason for depriving London of these quiet and dignified buildings.

In reply to enquiries the Clerk of the Council has informed the Society that it is not intended to touch the houses until they are needed in connexion with the scheme, and then it is the intention of the Council to consider whether it will be possible to avoid demolishing the premises.

The Committee can only hope that the houses will be permitted to remain undisturbed.

Proposed Widening of Mill Street, Maidstone.

In the last report it was stated that a scheme was proposed for widening Mill Street, which, if carried out, would involve the destruction of the interesting Gate House, and the beautiful mediaeval bridge.

The Committee learns on good authority that the Gate House, at any rate, is not to be interfered with in any way, but the bridge, though not to be touched, will

have the pavement projecting over it. This need not in itself be objectionable, but a great deal depends upon the manner in which it is done. The Society's action in this case appears to have been to a large extent, if not entirely, successful.

Markenfield Hall, Yorks.

A report reached the Society to the effect that it was proposed to carry out some works to this important building, which is figured in Parker's *Domestic Architecture*, and although it is private property, the Committee thought under the circumstances it would be justified in approaching the owner, Lord Grantley, upon the subject.

A letter was therefore sent to his Lordship, who very courteously replied that he was not contemplating any alterations to Markenfield Hall, nor did he ever do so. Lord Grantley added that he was wholly in agreement with the Society on the subject of the non-restoration of ancient buildings.

Northorpe Church, Lincolnshire.

It is more than twenty years since this church came before the Society; it was visited in 1883, and a report was sent to the Vicar and Churchwardens.

The Committee learnt a short time ago that there was a proposal to restore the building, and it therefore approached the present Vicar upon the subject, offering

at the same time to give a small donation towards the work provided it was done in accordance with the Society's principles.

The Vicar very kindly forwarded a copy of his Architect's report to the Committee. It was sorry to find that there were several proposals which it could not approve, but it did not feel justified in expressing a definite opinion without first having a more recent report upon the building than the Society possessed. The church was therefore visited by a professional member, and after his report had been considered a letter was sent to the Vicar urging reconsideration of the following points.

The glazing of the windows is clear glass, leaded in small square panes, and it was proposed to renew this. The Committee begged that the existing glazing should be retained and repaired where necessary. It was pointed out that if it were renewed nothing better could be put in its place, and any form of "cathedral" glass would certainly be most detrimental to the building.

It was also urged that the plaster should be brushed down, repaired and colourwashed. It is unnecessary to remove it and it was urged that the difficulty of doing good plaster work which is suitable for ancient buildings is very great; and to leave the walls without plaster is a greater evil than modern plaster, as the walls soon become dirty, and then there is nothing for it but to wash them down thoroughly and plaster them.

It was proposed to build a vestry, organ and heating chamber. Now heating chambers underground are a

danger to ancient buildings, as they cause settlements, and they are not an economical method of heating.

The Committee suggested that as the present stove was of insufficient size, a larger Gurney stove would be found to warm the church with less trouble and expense, and it pointed out that most of our Cathedral and Abbey Churches are warmed by these stoves. With regard to a vestry it recommended that the space at the east end of the south aisle, now occupied by a pew, should be screened off for the purpose, as this would have the advantage of not only meeting all requirements, but it would be kept dry and warm with the ordinary ventilation and warming necessary for the main building, whereas external vestries, besides disfiguring the exterior of ancient buildings, are nearly always damp.

The Committee regrets that the Vicar did not reply to the letter conveying the Society's recommendations on these various points, so that it fears there is little probability of their being favourably considered.

North Steke Church, Oxon.

The works of repair to this church, which were in progress at the time when the Society's last report was issued, were completed in November, 1902. The workmen engaged were local men living in the village and neighbourhood.

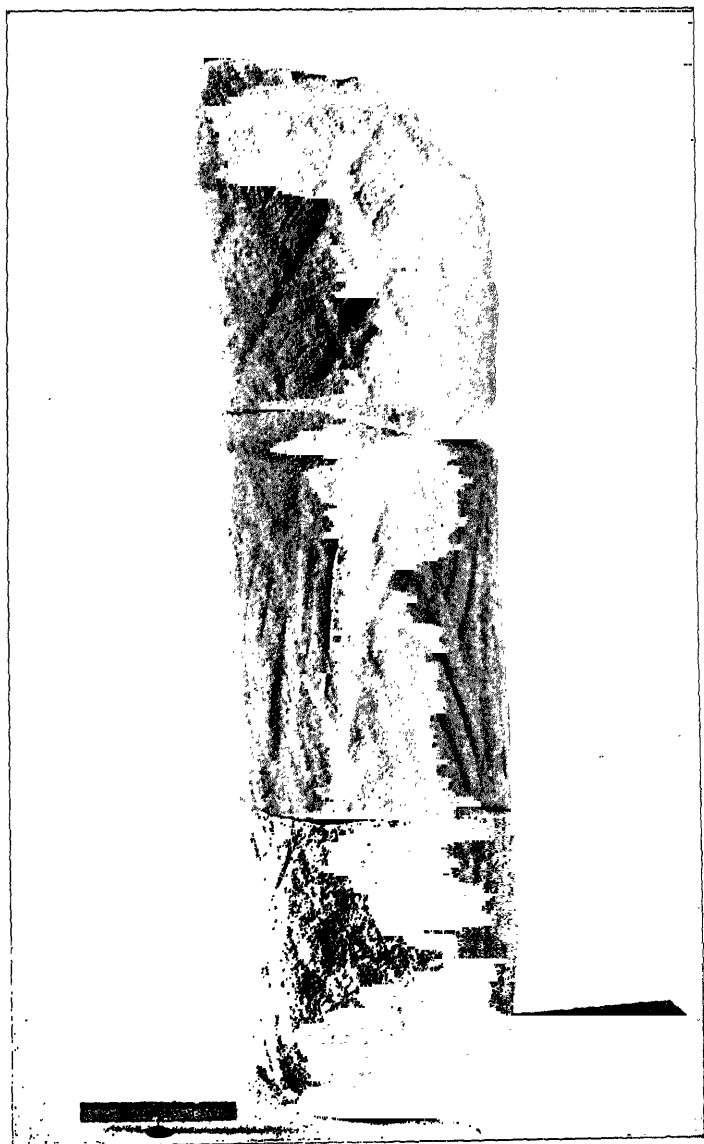
The footings to the walls of the nave were found to be about twelve inches below the floor level, on a fairly good foundation. Damp had caused the inner surfaces of

the north and south walls, for about five feet above the floor, to become disintegrated to a considerable depth, and in some places to the full thickness of the walls. As the walls are built of flint with horizontal courses of chalk (known as "Rug" in the locality) at intervals, as a bond, the damp had a very bad effect and caused the chalk to crumble. This portion of the walls was repaired and strengthened, as well as a portion of the flint facing. During the repairs a portion of a stone pillar piscina was found built into the north wall of the nave near to the east end. As will be seen from the view we give, it consists of a rudely shaped circular shaft, the base of which is gone, enriched with a pattern of basket work. The cap is roughly formed, and has its top dished towards the drain in the centre. It is believed to be of Saxon date, and has been carefully preserved.

The wall at the back of the south respond of the tower arch, from the floor up to the springing, was found to be wholly built of chalk, faced with flint on the outside. The chalk had crumbled from the damp; it was removed bit by bit, replaced with good sound hard material, and the flint facing reset.

The chancel arch and the wall above it were in a very serious condition, the abutments having yielded to the thrust of the arch; and the wall above having settled considerably, causing two vertical cracks directly over the arch.

A strong wood centre was fixed under the arch before the work of repair was begun. The cracks were



From photograph kindly lent by the Society of Antiquaries.

PILLAR PISCINA, NORTH STOKE CHURCH, OXON.

then repaired with hard material and liquid lime mortar. At the level of the top of the arch a brick lintel, slightly cambered, was inserted across the width of the wall to relieve the arch of some of the weight of the superstructure, and at the same time tie the wall well together.

Over the east window of the chancel two cracks existed. These were repaired and the wall well bonded.

The roofs of nave and chancel are covered with hand-made tiles in good condition. The nave roof was ceiled with plaster under the rafters and the collars of principals. Unfortunately this ceiling was in a very poor condition, being bulged and patched to a great extent. The laths were found to be rotten and the plaster in danger of falling. On its removal the timbers of the roof were found to be of oak in good condition, well framed together and in good preservation. The purlins on which the rafters rest had sagged towards the middle. New oak ceiling joists were added at the level of the collars of the principals to stiffen the rafters and receive the new plaster. The purlins were bolted up to the rafters at intervals, and all made sound and secure. The roof was then ceiled with new plaster and limewhited.

The chancel roof was found to be sound and apparently lately reconstructed with oak. It has two tiebeams of pitch pine, which relieve the walls of the thrust of the roof. The roof is ceiled under the rafters and the collars.

The roof of the porch is of oak covered with hand-made

tiles. The timbers have been repaired and strengthened with iron straps and bolts, and the tiles rehung on new oak battens nailed on the top of the rafters.

The roof of the tower was found to be almost entirely perished. It has been renewed in oak, all the sound timber being reused.

The old lead has been recast and relaid on rough deal boarding on the top of the rafters, laid to proper falls.

There are no eaves-gutters to the roofs, and it is considered unnecessary to provide them, as the eaves project sufficiently for the water to drop clear of the walls into the surface gutter which has been reconstructed round the outside of the building.

The soil under the floor of the building has been excavated to allow of a six-inch bed of concrete being provided, on which the old brick and tile pavings were carefully relaid. The memorial slabs were reset in their former positions.

All the old encaustic tiles, of various patterns, which were found under the boarded floors, have been inserted in the paving on the inside of the altar rails.

During the excavations necessary for the provision of concrete a memorial stone, without inscription, was discovered. This has been bedded in the concrete in the position in which it was found.

A stone coffin, with a Latin inscription very much obliterated, and an old altar stone, much worn and broken, were found in the chancel.

A new boarded floor was provided under the seats

in the nave, and a similar floor under the tower, and the space enclosed by a good oak screen across the tower arch. This is divided by a partition to form a vestry on the north side, and a ringing chamber on the south.

The old choir benches in the chancel and the only three remaining ancient benches in the nave have been repaired, as well as the old chest. New oak benches and an oak lectern of simple design have been provided, the pulpit with its sounding-board being repaired and fixed on a plain oak framed base.

A Gurney stove has been procured for warming the building. The font was under-pinned with brickwork, and its bowl, which was broken in two parts, repaired and strengthened by a gun-metal band fixed on its outside.

The walls of the chancel are covered with modern plaster, which has been cleaned and colour-washed, and the underside of the roof has been limewhited and finished a pure white.

The leaded glass of the windows has been carefully repaired and restopped, and an inner frame added to the iron casements in order to make them weatherproof.

Drapery, carpets and curtains have been placed in the chancel.

Some interesting wall-paintings in the nave have been uncovered fairly successfully. On the north and south walls some of the subjects remain complete, the drawing of the figures being exceptionally good, and the colour well preserved. Where it was necessary to make good the plaster this has been done without interfering

with the paintings, and the walls below the paintings have been repaired and colour-washed.

Attention was given to the belfry, ringing chamber, and bells, and the exterior of the building was carefully gone over, and repaired and pointed where necessary.

This is a rough general outline of what has been done and it is only necessary to add that the work was carried out under the direct personal supervision of the Architect on the spot in consultation with the Society.

The following letter from the Vicar will be of interest to the supporters of the Society :

IPSDEN VICARAGE,
WALLINGFORD,
November 20th, 1902.

MY DEAR SIR,

At our last meeting before the re-opening of St. Mary's I was asked to convey through you to your Society, the expression of the very great satisfaction felt by all of us—and apparently by all visitors—at the masterly way in which the work has been carried out. The re-opening service was something like an epoch in the village history. The Bishop spoke to me most warmly about the church and the care that has been bestowed on it.

Believe me,
Very sincerely yours,
C. STANWELL.

THACKERAY TURNER, ESQ.

Onibury Church, Shropshire.

In the note on this church which appeared in the last report it was stated that the Society's report upon the building was being considered by the Patron.

The Committee is pleased to be able to state that the

Patron has decided to carry out the Society's recommendations, and the necessary works are now being done under the superintendence of an Architect on the spot, acting in conjunction with the Society.

We hope to give a detailed description of the works in the next report.

Church of St. Nicholas, Potter Heigham, Norfolk.

Strong local character would seem to be the secret of the peculiar charm of this church. A building like this could only have been erected in the midst of the Norfolk fens, and the use of moulded bricks and tiles from the ancient pottery adds to this impression of local workmanship. The situation is also romantic, and the old churchyard wall, of flint and bricks, in pattern, has the same home-made beauty.

At the request of the Rector the building was visited by the Society and a report prepared as to the works necessary to put the building into a proper state of repair.

The oldest portions of the church are the chancel (about the year 1200) and the round tower (which is probably earlier). The nave arches, the porch, and the beautiful octagonal belfry, are probably fourteenth century work. The tall clerestory of knapped pebbles and brick and the whole of the aisle windows are of the latter part of the fifteenth century. The final addition to the building—the nave roof—is of the same date.

This is richly carved and moulded, and has a romantic

covering of reed thatch which is a fitting climax to centuries of village building.

Of the old furniture, enough is left to reflect something of the splendour of the mediaeval craft work. The brick font is probably of the fourteenth century, so also is the screen, which, although mutilated, is still rich with finely painted figures and gay patterns. There are some wall paintings in the north aisle which appear to be earlier; the workmanship is remarkably fine. A spindle over the font in the apex of the roof shows that there was once a large font cover, and there are a few ends of benches left of the fourteenth century.

The clerestory windows were "restored" some twenty years ago, the fine roof corbels scraped and the old glass throughout the church was removed. It is fortunate, however, that the windows were reglazed with clear glass and that the restoration went no further.

The building as a whole is in a good state of preservation, but is in need of many works of repair. The east wall of the nave (over the chancel arch) is in a bad state. The clerestory walls have moved outwards, tearing the eastern wall. The south-east angle has been pushed eastwards by the thrust of the clerestory arcade.

To check this movement a tie-rod was introduced some twenty years ago, but this has not had the desired effect, and to prevent any further movement of the clerestory walls a strong tie-rod should be fixed across the nave (on the inside of the east wall) and the south angle should be buttressed. It will also be necessary to build in ties of hard material across the larger cracks.

The tower has gone over about five inches to the west, taking the west wall of the nave with it, but it seems unlikely that the movement is of recent date. The foundations, however, will require to be examined and if necessary they should be underpinned. A crack running almost the whole height of the circular tower will need to be carefully bonded across and repaired, as well as cracks in the north and south clerestories. The lead on the tower roof will need recasting and relaying on new pine boards, and the roof, which is a beautiful piece of work, needs strengthening. The belfry windows also are in need of repair.

The bell cage is interesting and can be strengthened. Two of the bells we believe are of pre-Reformation date.

The nave roof should have the old thatch and boards removed (a bay at a time), the timbers repaired and strengthened, the boards relaid and the roof re-thatched with new reeds.

The aisle roofs also need repair, and the lead must be recast in places.

The chancel roof is about a hundred years older than the other roofs and, owing to the absence of tie-beams, it has to some extent thrust out the walls. At the east end this was checked by the introduction of an iron tie-rod about twenty years ago, and it is advisable to insert another rod at the west end. An oak tie-beam should also be placed across the centre of the chancel. The roof will also need reparation and new thatch similar to that of the nave roof.

The porch will need careful repair.

In addition the building must be pointed in places, open joints need filling up, and generally those repairs are necessary which every building, whether ancient or modern, requires from time to time.

Potter Heigham Church is a building of such remarkable value that it is with the greatest possible pleasure that the Committee report that the Rector has expressed his intention of having the building treated in accordance with the Society's recommendations and under the superintendence of the Architect who visited the building on its behalf. It is earnestly to be hoped that the sum needed (£1,280) will be forthcoming.

Houses, High Street, Rochester.

The attention of the Society was called to a proposal to pull down and rebuild two houses in the High Street, Rochester, on the north side of the Cathedral.

In the case of one of these houses this was probably reasonable, but not so with regard to the other, which was a pretty little building, to all appearances in fair repair. Half of it was used as a beer-house ("The Phoenix") and the other portion as a seedman's shop. The great merit of the building, quite apart from its architectural value, was that it was low and gave scale to the cathedral and helped to form a very pleasant picture.

The Committee gathered that it was proposed to erect shops on the sites of the two houses, which were likely to be out of harmony with the surroundings, and it addressed a letter to the Dean and Chapter, the owners,

upon the subject. It urged that full weight should be given to the importance of not marring the charming aspect of the cathedral from the High Street, and it pointed out that the destruction of the ancient house would be a grievous loss, which would be intensified if a high building were erected on its site. The Committee begged that the old house referred to might be allowed to remain, or at the worst, that a new one of no greater height and of simple design should take its place.

A reply was received from the Chapter Clerk to the effect that the condition of the premises made it necessary that they should be pulled down and rebuilt, and that the Dean and Chapter had "taken the best advice and made the best arrangements in their power as to the form of the buildings to be erected on the site."

Now it does not come within the province of this Society to criticise new work as such, but anyone, competent to judge, who sees the new buildings which have been erected, must, it is thought, agree with the Society in thinking that they are entirely out of keeping with their surroundings, and should not have been placed in the position they occupy. And for this the Dean and Chapter, who are the custodians of the building, and whose duty it is to protect the cathedral from anything which may mar it, are responsible.

Saintbury Church, Gloucestershire.

In the last report we stated that the Society had contributed £5 from its Building Fund to this case, and that the work of repair had been carried out as far

as the funds at the disposal of the authorities would admit. We also reported that the Rector, in thanking the Society, said that when they dealt with the flat fifteenth century roof they would be grateful for any suggestions as to its treatment.

At a later date we were able to suggest to the Rector a means by which the roof could be treated in a practical way by competent persons. The Rector readily agreed to follow the Society's advice, but unfortunately for lack of funds he could not see his way to carry out the works, which were most urgent.

As we gathered from the Rector's letters that he was very anxious to adopt the advice given to him, and was also striving to raise the sum needed, the Committee decided to make an exception in this case, and a further contribution of £2 has been promised.

Need we give a better illustration of the value of the Building Fund, not only in helping—may be to a small extent—in the actual repair of buildings, but also as showing the goodwill of the Society to the custodians of ancient buildings who carry out works of repair as opposed to restoration?

St. Just-in-Roseland Church, Cornwall.

Although this building is difficult to reach, being at such a great distance from London and also from the great towns where many of our professional members reside, the Committee arranged for it to be surveyed, as the Rector wished for the Society's advice as to its treatment.

The church is in the Perpendicular style, and with the exception of the side chapel, which is probably of the seventeenth century, and the vestry, which is of the eighteenth or early nineteenth century, it is of one date. The tower, which appears to have been built before the body of the church, contains an arch, between it and the nave, built in unwrought stone, which is apparently earlier than the tower itself. This may be the only remaining part of a previous church.

A report was prepared and forwarded to the Rector. The building will require the most careful treatment or otherwise it will lose most of the beauty for which it is now well-known. The Committee has urged that the repairs should be done under the personal direction of a competent person on the spot, and it trusts that this suggestion, as well as those made in the report as to the methods to be employed in putting the church into a proper structural condition, will be followed.

Snargate Church, Kent.

At the request of the Committee the Rector very kindly gave a description of the works proposed to be done at Snargate Church, and also promised to send the Architect's plans if desired. From the account given by the Rector the Committee came to the conclusion that the works contemplated were for the most part essential for the preservation of the building, and it informed him that if it was allowed to see the plans and specification and approved of the proposals, the Society would make a small contribution. As a result the

Rector forwarded the plans and specification, and the Committee was pleased to find that it was intended to carry out the works in accordance with the Society's principles. The Committee was able to make a few suggestions, most of which were adopted.

The Society promised to give a small sum if it approved of the works when completed, and a professional member residing in Kent visited the church and found that the small amount of money collected had been judiciously expended in the repair of roofs, the provision of new gutters and down pipes, and the repair of floors, etc.

The Society therefore forwarded to the Rector a cheque for the promised sum.

Sonning Bridges, Oxon.

In spite of all protests the Oxfordshire County Council has decided to replace the picturesque wooden bridges by bridges constructed of iron.

The bridges were examined by two professional members of the Society, who reported that they were past repair, but if reconstructed (in timber) probably a certain amount of the woodwork would be found sound and fit for re-use.

Although it is hardly the function of this Society to express opinions on new work, nevertheless the Committee thought that if the bridges were to be entirely new, it was still justified in urging that the character of the bridges should be retained, and that new oak bridges should be erected, with oak parapets, utilising all the

sound timber. A letter was sent to the Chairman of the County Council to this effect.

The proprietors of *Country Life* had a scheme prepared for the erection of timber bridges which seemed to the Committee to be excellent. However, all efforts were unavailing and the iron bridges are now probably nearly, if not quite, completed. Thus the beauty of our rivers is mutilated by the introduction of features which are out of keeping with their surroundings and are in themselves unnecessary, for undoubtedly timber bridges would more than have met the necessities of the case, and, moreover, from the purely monetary point of view would have been more economical.

Sutton Courtenay Church, Berks.

This building, like many others which the Society has recently surveyed, was visited at the request of the Rector.

It consists of chancel, nave, north and south aisles, and western tower.

The chancel is of thirteenth century date and it retains the original east window of four lights, as well as three small lancet windows on the north side, to the west of which, and close to the chancel arch, is a three-light fifteenth century window. A similar window has been inserted opposite in the south wall. The lancets on this side, with the exception of one of the jambs which is still visible on the outside of the wall, have been destroyed. A fourteenth century two-light window has been inserted close to the east end, underneath which is a good piscina.

The chancel arch appears to have been altered in the fifteenth century. It has Norman shafts and caps of similar date to the tower. The present pointed arch appears to have been substituted for the Norman one.

The nave is of fifteenth century date, and consists of an arcade of four bays. The easternmost bay on the south side has its arch constructed with Norman work (probably the old Norman chancel arch) in the form of a pointed arch. The clerestory has good two-light fifteenth century windows.

The aisles are of similar date to the nave and have good three-light windows.

There is a late brick porch on the south side with parvise over, and on the north side there is a poor modern brick porch.

The tower is of Norman date with a good west doorway and window over it. On the north and south sides there are small round-headed windows. The upper portion, from below the belfry windows, is of thirteenth century date. The tower arch is plain and of Norman date.

The building is of considerable interest and fortunately has escaped any serious "restoration" of late years. It is in urgent need of repair.

The Rector has arranged for the necessary works to be carried out under the auspices of the Society, and the Committee has promised a contribution of £5 from the Building Fund towards the cost, which is estimated to amount to £950.

The works will shortly be begun and we hope to give a description of them in the report next year.

Sutton-on-Trent Church Tower, Notts.

In the last report we promised to refer fully to this building in the report for the present year.

The Committee considers this to be one of the Society's most successful works of repair.

It should be remembered that more than one Architect had condemned the tower to destruction because they considered it could only be repaired, with safety to those employed, at enormous expense. In spite of this the Tower has been put into a thoroughly sound structural condition at less than two-thirds of the estimated cost of rebuilding. The work was done under the superintendence of the Architect upon the spot in conjunction with the Society.

The tower measures internally at the ground floor level 13ft. 11in. from east to west, and 13ft. 6in. from north to south. It is 60ft. 6in. high from the ground floor to the top of the parapet, the walls are of stone, 4ft. thick at the base, and are plastered both internally and externally. The foundations are 4ft. 9in. in thickness, and are taken down 3ft. 9in. below the floor level, the ground on the outside of the tower being 1ft. 9in. above the floor level.

At the first floor the walls are reduced on the inside to 3ft. 6in. in thickness, and are further reduced at the belfry level to 3ft.

At a height of 48ft. 6in. above the ground, the old beams, which evidently formed the roof of the original tower, built about the year 1200, exist. The work above this height is probably a century later, and

buttresses were also built against the north and south-west angles at this date, although the latter buttress appears to have been rebuilt at the beginning of the last century.

The walls of the earlier work were built of stone, in thin courses, on the internal and external faces, and the centre or core of the walls was roughly filled in with similar stone. The quoins at the angles and the dressings to the windows are of a hard limestone which has crushed very badly, especially where exposed to the weather.

The later, or top portion of the tower, and the buttresses, appear to be of Mansfield stone, with ashlar facing, in fair sized courses, and in excellent preservation.

The walls up to the belfry level were badly cracked in two or three places on each side of the tower, close to the angles and at the centre. At these points the ancient putlog holes occurred at every 4 or 5ft. of the height, and extending through the thickness of the walls, no doubt weakened them considerably. The stones had snapped as clean as if they had been cut in two. The outside facing was badly bulged in places and in an extremely dangerous condition. The external plaster was very much broken and perished, and this allowed the wet to penetrate into the walls.

The foundations were found to be built of herring-bone masonry, laid in earth without mortar—probably the foundations of an earlier tower of Saxon date. Fortunately they rested on a good gravel bed, which has apparently withstood the weight of the tower.

It is probable that settlement took place in the



Photo, William Weir.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT CHURCH TOWER, NOTTS.

Example of the condition of walling before repair.

herring-bone masonry, which may have proved strong enough for a less lofty tower, but gave way under the stress of the additional weight when the tower was raised to its present height.

The cracks in the walls had the appearance of being very old, and no sign of any recent movement could be traced. No cracks were visible in the herring-bone work; they mostly started a little above the ground floor level.

After a good scaffold had been erected around the four sides of the tower, standing clear of the walls, the lower portions of the walls, where they were badly bulged, were boarded on the outside with upright boards, having horizontal battens at top and bottom secured to them by means of iron rods passed horizontally through the tower, and bolted on the outside of the battens. The old putlog holes permitted of this system being adopted without the necessity of having to cut holes to allow the iron rods to pass through the thickness of the walls, which would not have been possible without considerable risk on account of their dilapidated condition. The upright boards bent and adjusted themselves to the bulged portions of the outside faces of the walls, and held them securely while the work of repair was in progress.

On the removal of the plaster from the inside face the serious state of the walls became apparent to its full extent. This is exemplified in our illustration. The west wall is weakened considerably by a doorway with a window over it, which pierces it up to the first floor level.

A temporary wood centre was fixed under the arch over the doorway in order to steady it during the repair of the jambs, etc. Several of the stones on the interior angles of the jambs were completely shattered and had to be renewed. The cracks on either side of the doorway were repaired and the loose portions of the wall reinstated from the inside, up to the first floor level, in hard material and well bonded into the sound outer facing.

Where the outer facing was bulged, long bonding stones were inserted at intervals, so as to tie it and the internal work well together.

The stone arch over the doorway has been strengthened on the under side with three rings of brickwork, supported on $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. brick jambs bonded into the old jambs of the opening. The top of the arch forms the sill of the window. The loose mortar was removed from the joints of the arch on the top side and grouted in with liquid mortar and in order to strengthen the arch on its top, a keyed stone lintel was fixed flush with the inside face of the wall and the space at the back filled up flush with concrete, level with the lintel and the sill of the window.

A bad crack occurred at the centre of the north wall under the window. This was repaired and the wall well bonded together, on the inside, to the back of the outer facing. The jambs of the window were treated in a similar manner, as well as the wall on either side of the window near the angles of tower. A new oak lintel was provided over the window on the inner face.

The south wall had suffered most severely from the weather. The core had to be largely replaced with

hard material and the outside facing repaired. Very bad cracks existed, and these have been made good after most careful strutting and shoring.

A new oak lintel was inserted on the inside face over the window and one of the main cross-beams supporting the floor, which was broken in two, has been spliced, a new portion inserted, and the whole well bonded together.

The arch on the east side of the tower leading into the nave extends to the full width of the tower. It is built of good masonry, in sound condition, but the wall over it was cracked near the angles and had to be carefully repaired.

Formerly the opening under the arch was filled in with a modern stone wall having a small doorway giving access to the nave. Owing to the east walls of the aisles being in a direct line with the arch, and so receiving its thrust, the filling in has been removed and an iron tie-rod inserted at springing of arch on its west side and continued through the north and south walls of tower.

From the first floor up to the belfry floor the walls have been treated in a similar manner to the lower portion.

On the west wall a brick lintel was inserted at the floor level over the window so as to bond the work at angles well together and to stiffen the wall at its weak point.

A brick lintel was also inserted under the beams supporting the belfry floor which rest on the east and west walls. Where the ends of the beams have perished good stone corbels were fixed, projecting sufficiently to reach the solid portion of the timber. The wall at the ends of

the beams was opened out and rebuilt, so as to insure a good circulation of air around the beam ends in order to preserve them.

In the belfry stage the settlements occurred at the windows, there being a two-light window on each face of the tower. The necessary repairs here have been carried out.

A little higher than the window openings there are six old beams from the east to the west walls, which probably formed the original roof of the tower. The ends were very much decayed and several stone corbels have been inserted to support them.

The later work on the top of the tower has been repaired and pointed.

The two buttresses before referred to have been repaired and strengthened.

The external walls have been covered with a thin coat of plaster, the stone dressings to windows, etc., being left exposed.

The circular stairs at the south-east angle, which led from the belfry up to the roof, formerly had no covering and allowed the wet to penetrate into the walls. A lead roof has been constructed over them, with a door giving access, to the roof.

The old cast lead on the roof of the tower has been repaired and made weatherproof.

The old clock face of wood has been repaired, repainted, and fixed in its old position. The works, which are very old, have been overhauled and re-fixed in a dust-proof enclosure.

The interior surface of the walls from the first floor level upwards has been repointed and thrice limewashed, and the walls of the ground floor stage have been plastered and colourwashed.

The old paving on the ground floor has been relaid on a bed of concrete on dry rubbish, and the wooden flooring over ground floor repaired and made dust-proof.

A new west door and frame of English oak have been provided and the bell-frame repaired and strengthened by means of bolts and straps.

It will be apparent to those having the slightest knowledge of the subject that the works which we have described could not have been carried out from a specification. Unless the Architect had been on the spot ready to deal with each point as it arose, the tower could not have been repaired, and when an Architect in large practice says such a building cannot be repaired, his statement, in the conditions in which he works, is quite correct. To attempt to repair a building like Sutton-on-Trent church tower from directions given in a specification, however detailed, would be fatal. This being so, the Society is anxious that the custodians of our ancient buildings should well consider the importance of the question of supervision, for we have proved that the personal direction of the Architect on the spot has resulted in the preservation of ancient buildings which otherwise would have been lost to us.

Thornham Church, Norfolk.

A correspondent who was travelling in Norfolk called

the attention of the Society to the condition of this building. The nave is in a state of suspended restoration, for lack of funds. The roof of the aisles allows the water to come through, and some fine old wood-work—benches, portions of painted screens and the like—was piled up in the disused building with the rain leaking in upon them from the defective roof.

The Society made enquiries and was informed that the information given by its correspondent was correct but that the Authorities had promised to effect a more careful storage of the wood-work referred to in some other portion of the church. It is regrettable that the building should have been allowed to fall into its present condition, but it is only right to say that at the time the Society made enquiries the benefice was vacant.

The Committee is always glad to receive information as to contemplated restorations, or (as in the present case) where works of protection are necessary.

Wakefield Bridge and Chapel, Yorks.

A rumour reached the Society to the effect that in order to make provision for tramway traffic it was proposed to widen this bridge, and as the Committee considered the subject to be of great importance a professional member visited Wakefield and went carefully into the question.

It was found that not only the piers but the arches of the fourteenth century bridge remained and that the eastern half of the present bridge is indeed the old bridge complete, except the parapets, which have been rebuilt.

With regard to the famous chapel in mid-stream it was found to be ancient up to the road level, but the part above that level was rebuilt by Sir Gilbert Scott in 1847.

Many statements appeared in the public press as to what was proposed, but nothing of a sufficiently definite nature to justify the Society in taking public action; the Committee believes, however, that there is no probability, at the present time, of the bridge being interfered with. The Board of Trade has expressed the opinion that, even if the tramways are constructed, the bridge affords sufficient accommodation in its present state.

It will be the duty of the Society to watch the case carefully so as to be prepared to take action whenever necessary, for the protection of both the bridge and the chapel.

West Ham Church Tower, Essex.

At the request of the Vicar and the Church Committee this tower was surveyed by three professional members of the Society and a detailed report has been furnished.

We understand that the Custodians approve the Society's recommendations and the Vicar has informed us that he will consult the Society as soon as the necessary funds are in hand.

Winster Market House, Derbyshire.

The Market House is a small building standing on the south side of the main street of Winster. The ground floor walls are built of stone pierced with low pointed arches. The walls of the upper portion are of

brick and contain mullioned windows, centred with the arches of ground floor.

The roof is constructed of oak, and is covered with stone tiles.

The upper portion of the building appears to be of seventeenth century work, and the lower part is probably earlier.

The building has been visited by the Society and a report prepared setting forth the works required to preserve it, which are somewhat expensive. The Committee is in communication with the Hon. Secretary of the Derbyshire Archæological Society upon the subject, but it is afraid that until the question of ownership, which is uncertain, is settled, but little progress can be made in raising the sum required for carrying out all the necessary repairs.

Withycombe Church, Somerset.

In the last report it was stated that the Society had sent a report to the Rector fully explaining how this building should be repaired, more particularly with reference to the tower, and that the Committee was then in communication with him as to the best course to follow in carrying out the works.

Unfortunately the authorities did not see their way to employing a competent person to supervise the works on the spot. This the Society deems to be most important, but as the Committee was anxious that the repairs should be done properly it arranged for the professional member who had previously reported on the

church, to visit it again and give the workmen some instruction as to the method to be employed.

Our member met the mason who was going to do the necessary repairs at the building and explained to him, as well as possible, how the work of repairing cracks and bonding the walls together should be done. The Committee is glad to be able to report one very satisfactory feature.

The bell-hanger who was to have rehung the bells proposed at first to recast one of them into two smaller bells. This was objected to and the suggestion was then abandoned. He also proposed to mutilate the bells by cutting off the cannons, and declined to do the work in any other way.

The Reparation Committee, however, refused to have the bells treated in this manner, and as a result the work has been given to a firm which has agreed to carry out the rehanging without mutilating the bells or abandoning the oak frame.

*The following is a list of Buildings which have come before the
Society during the Year :—*

- | | |
|--|--|
| Abbey Dore Church, Herefordshire. | Buckland Church, Devonshire. |
| Alphamstone Church, Essex. | Burford, Oxon., Ancient Houses. |
| Alwalton Church, Hunts. | Burgh Castle, Norfolk. |
| Ashley, near Market Drayton, Staffordshire, Old Rectory. | Burnham Church, Bucks. |
| Ashton-under-Hill Church, Gloucestershire. | Bury Church, Sussex. |
| Astley Church, Worcestershire. | Buxted Church, Sussex. |
| Athens, The Erechtheion | Cambridge, King's College Chapel. |
| Bampton, Oxon., Grammar School House. | Cambridge, President's Lodge, Queen's College. |
| Basingwerk Abbey, Flints. | Cambridge University Library. |
| Bath, Somerset, Obelisk, Queen Square. | Canterbury Castle Ruins, Kent. |
| Beaumaris Church, Anglesey. | Carew Castle, Pembrokeshire. |
| Berrow Church, Worcestershire. | Chichester Bell Tower, Sussex. |
| Berwick-upon-Tweed Bridge. | Chichester Cathedral, Sussex. |
| Berwick-upon-Tweed Church. | Chichester Market Cross, Sussex. |
| Berwick-upon-Tweed Ancient Vallum, etc. | Chillington Church, Somerset. |
| Binsted Church Tower, Hants. | Chippenham Church, Cambs. |
| Birmingham, The Blue Coat School. | Chipping Warden Church, Northants. |
| Bishops Waltham, Hants, The Old Palace. | Church Honeybourne Church, Worcestershire. |
| Blythburgh Church, Suffolk. | Cirencester, Gloucestershire, Houses. |
| Bologna, Walls of | Clifton, Campville Church, Staffs. |
| Bosham Church, Sussex. | Clitheroe Church, Lancs. |
| Brereton Church, Cheshire. | Coln Rogers Church, Gloucestershire. |
| Brixham, Devon, St. Mary's Church. | Coln St. Denis Church, Gloucestershire. |
| Brockhampton Church, Herefordshire. | Compton Church, Hants. [in |
| Bromley, Kent, The College. | Cookham Church, Berks., Brasses |
| Broomfield Park, Palmers Green, Middlesex. | Coombe Abbey, Warwickshire. |
| | Conway Castle, Carnarvonshire. |
| | Cray, Kent, St. Paul's Church. |
| | Croydon, Surrey, Whitgift Hospital. |

- Cudworth Church, Somerset.
 Culross Abbey, N.B.
 Dartmoor, Devon, Monuments.
 Dauntsey Church, Wilts.
 Dorchester, Dorset, St. Peter's Church.
 Doultling, Somersetshire, Churchyard Cross.
 Dunolly Castle, N.B.
 Dunstable Priory Church, Beds.
 Eagle Church, Lincs.
 Eastbourne, Sussex, Old Rectory.
 Eastington Court, Worcestershire.
 East Kirkby Church, Lincs.
 Eltham, Kent, Houses.
 Ely Cathedral, Cambs.
 Esher, Surrey, St. George's Church.
 Evesham, Worcestershire, Ancient Houses.
 Exeter Cathedral, Devon.
 Exeter, Exe Bridge, Devon.
 Exeter, The Guildhall, Devon.
 Field Dalling Church, Norfolk.
 Fordington St. George Church, Dorset.
 Garveston Church, Norfolk.
 Gileston Church, Glamorganshire.
 Gnosall Church, Staffs.
 Great Durnford Church, Wilts.
 Greetham Church, Lincs.
 Grendon Underwood, Bucks., Shakespeare's House Farm.
 Guiting Church, Gloucestershire.
 Haddington Abbey, N.B.
 Hales Owen Church, Worcestershire.
 Ham Mill, nr. Martley, Worcestershire.
 Hampton, Middlesex, Garrick's Villa.
 Hampton Church, Worcestershire.
 Hanley Hall, near Malvern, Worcestershire.
 Harpole Church, Northants.
 Haslebury Bryan Church, Dorset.
 Hereford, All Saints' Church.
 Hever Castle, Kent.
 Hexham Abbey Church, Northumberland.
 Hollingbourne Church, Kent.
 Holyhead, Anglesey, St. Cybi's Church Tower.
 Honeychurch Church, Devonshire.
 Hoo, Kent, All Hallows' Church.
 Hull, Yorkshire, Wilberforce House.
 Hurley, near Marlow, Berks., Lady Place.
 Ickford Church, Bucks. [Yorks.
 Ingleby Greenhow Church, Inglesham Church, Wilts.
 Jacobstowe Church, Devonshire.
 Keston Church, Kent.
 Kimble Church, Bucks.
 Kirkstead Chapel, Lincs.
 Kirkwall Cathedral, Orkney, N.B.
 Knighton-on-Teme Church, Worcestershire.
 Lamphey Palace, Pembrokeshire.
 Lanteglos by Fowey Church, Cornwall.
 Lavenham, Suffolk, Guildhall.
 Leake Church, Yorks.
 Leicester, St. Mary's Church.
 Leicester, St. Nicholas Church.
 Lichfield, Staffs., The Grammar School.
 Lincoln, The Jew's House.
 Lincoln, Newport Gate.
 Linlithgow, N.B., St. Michael's Church.
 Little Malvern Church, Worcestershire.
 Little Oakley Church, Essex.
 Little Sampford Church, Essex.
 Llanelian Church, Denbighshire.
 Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog Church, Anglesey.
 Llangelynin Church, Merionethshire.
 Llangwyfan Church, Anglesey.
 Llanllyfyn Church, Carnarvonshire.
 London, Brixton Hill, Ivy House.

- London, Chelsea Old Church.
 London, Chelsea, Duke of York's School.
 London, Clerkenwell, Crypt under the Priory Church of St. John
 London, Clifford's Inn, E.C.
 London, Cripplegate, E.C., The Quest House.
 London, 17, Fleet Street.
 London, Hackney, The Church Institute.
 London, Lombard Street, E.C., All Hallows' Church.
 London, Strand, New Inn Hall.
 London, Westminster House, Great College Street.
 London, Westminster, St. Margaret's Church.
 London, Westminster, Houses, Smith's Square.
 Long Bennington Church, Lincs.
 Longsleddale Church, Westmorland.
 Loudwater Church, Bucks.
 Ludlow Church, Salop.
 Lyng Church, Somerset.
 Maidstone, Kent, Ancient Gate House, etc.
 Mark Church, Somerset.
 Markenfield Hall, Yorks.
 Markham Clinton Church, Notts.
 Marston Trussell Church, Northants.
 Meissen Cathedral, Saxony.
 Meverley Church, Salop.
 Milton Church, Lancs.
 Mundesley Old Church, Norfolk.
 Netherton Chapel, Worcester-shire.
 New Hall, near Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.
 North Clifton Church, near Newark, Notts. [shire.
 Northleach Church, Gloucester-
 Northorpe Church, Lincs.
 North Stoke Church, Oxon.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St. Peter Mancroft.
 Nottingham Castle, Gateway.
 Onibury Church, Salop.
 Oxford, St. Bartholomew's Hos-
 pital.
 Oxford, Chapel of Our Lady, Smithgate.
 Penn Church, Bucks.
 Peterborough Town Hall, Northants.
 Portchester Castle, Hants.
 Potter Heigham Church, Norfolk.
 Ramsbury Church, Wilts.
 Richmond Bridge, Surrey.
 Rievaulx Abbey, Yorks., Chapel.
 Rochester, Kent, Ancient Houses.
 Rothwell Church, Northants.
 St. Alban's, Herts., Hall Place.
 Saintbury Church, Gloucester-shire.
 St. David's Cathedral, St. Nicholas Chapel.
 St. Ives Church, Cornwall.
 St. Ives, Cornwall, The Market House.
 St. Just in Roseland Church, Cornwall.
 St. Margaret's Church, near Ware, Herts.
 Salisbury, Wilts., Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury.
 Salisbury, Wilts., Gateway, The Close.
 Salisbury, Wilts., The Joiners' Hall.
 Saltfleetby Church, Lincs.
 Sandwich, Kent, The Barbican.
 Sherborne Abbey, Dorset.
 Shrewsbury Abbey Church, Shropshire.
 Shrewsbury Market Hall, Shropshire.
 Snargate Church, Kent.
 Sonning Bridges, Oxfordshire.
 Sourton Church, Devon.
 South Muskham Church, Notts.
 Stonehenge.
 Stratford-upon-Avon Church, Warwickshire.

- Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, The Guild Chapel.
 Stratford-upon-Avon, Ancient Houses.
 Surfleet Church, Lincs.
 Sutton Courtenay Church, Berks.
 Sutton Courtenay Manor House, Berks.
 Sutton-on-Trent Church, Notts.
 Sydling Church, Dorset.
 Swanscombe Church, Kent.
 Tewin Church, Herts.
 Thornham Church, Norfolk.
 Thorpe Church Tower, Derbyshire.
 Thurston Hall, near Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk.
 Tintern Abbey, Monmouthshire.
 Uttoxeter, Staffs., Almshouses.
 Vienna, St. Stephen's Cathedral.
 Wakefield Bridge and Chapel, Yorks.
 Walton-le-Dale Church, Lancs.
 Warwick, Ancient House, Mill Street.
 Warwick, Leicester Hospital.
 Waxham Church, Norfolk.
 West Dereham Church, Norfolk.
 Westfield Church, Norfolk.
 West Ham Church Tower, Essex.
 West Hoo Barton, near Plymouth, Devonshire.
 West Malling Church, Kent, Stoup.
 Weston-on-the-Green Church, Oxon.
 Widford Church, Oxon.
 Wilby Church, Norfolk.
 Winchelsea Church, Sussex.
 Winchelsea, Sussex, Ancient Gate.
 Winster Market House, Derbyshire.
 Withycombe Church, Somerset.
 Wittering, Northants., All Saints' Church.
 Worcester, St. Martin's Church.
 Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
 Wroughton Church Tower, Wilts.
 Wymondham Church, Norfolk.
 York Minster Glass.
 York, St. William's College.
 York, The Moat.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1902.

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
To Balance at the 31st December, 1901, as per last statement	£	s.	d.	By Payments during the year 1902 :—	£	s.	d.
" Receipts during the year 1902 :—	95	13	9	" Rector of Saintbury, Gloucestershire, for the Church Repair Fund	5	0	0
Donations	4	4	0	" Rector of Snargate, Kent, for the Church Repair Fund	2	0	0
Amount received for the repair of Easing Bridge	19	17	7	" On Account of Works at Eashing Bridge, Surrey	50	1	7
				" Expenses in providing Report on St. Just in Roseland Church, Cornwall	3	10	0
				" Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1902			
					60	11	7
					</		

23rd April, 1903.

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

JOHN J. AUSTIN, Auditor.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1902.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.	
To Amount received in 1899 by sale of papers, transferred from the General Account	£65	0	0	By Amount on Deposit Account at the London City and Midland Bank	-	£65	0	0

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

JOHN J. AUSTIN, Auditor.

23rd April, 1903.

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If any Member finds his or her name incorrectly given, the Secretary will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following Members :—

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J. L. Frytche, F.S.A.

H. C. Kay.

R. B. Litchfield.

Mrs. Painter.

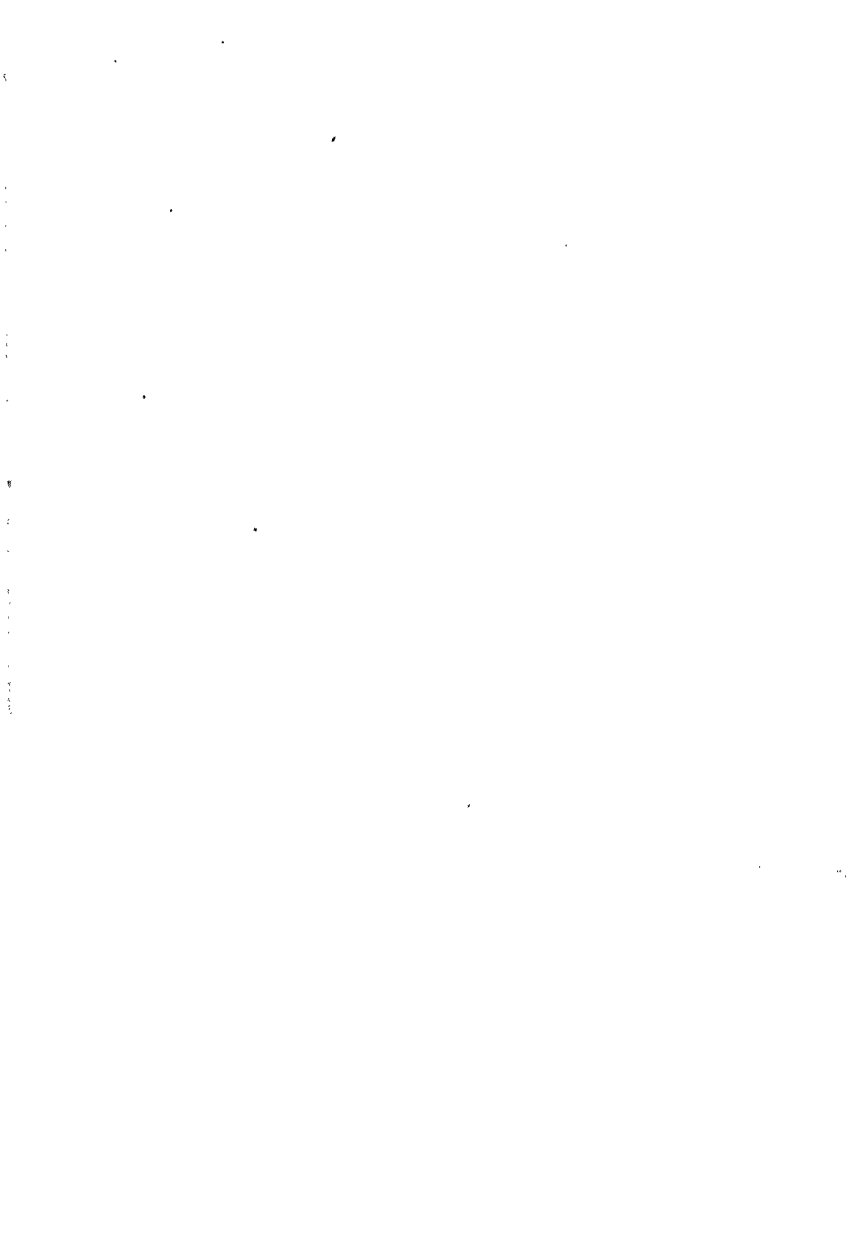
C. Kegan Paul.

J. H. Pollen.

George Rae.

His Excellency Baron Whettnall.

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.
THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY ; TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ; AND PAPER READ BY W. HOLMAN HUNT, ESQ. JUNE 1904

“DO NOT LET US TALK THEN OF RESTORATION : THE THING IS A LIE FROM BEGINNING TO END.”—JOHN RUSKIN.

THACKERAY TURNER, SECRETARY,
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ANNUAL REPORT.

IN presenting the following notes on some of the cases which have come before the Society during the past year, the Committee is glad to be able to report the increasing number of cases in which the Society has been appealed to for advice by the custodians of ancient buildings. The Committee feels this is to some extent due to the small book published by the Society under the title *Notes on the Repair of Ancient Buildings*, which so effectively proves that the advice given by the Society is essentially practical.

In connection with this book the Committee would like to refer to the great loss sustained by the Society in the death of one of its most indefatigable members—Mr. Robert Proctor. It was owing to Mr. Proctor having placed a sum of money in the hands of the Committee for the purpose that the Society was able to publish the book. At the time Mr. Proctor declined to allow his name to be mentioned in the matter, but now that he is no longer with us the Committee feels it to be right to refer to it.

The numerous buildings repaired under the auspices of the Society have also assisted it in demonstrating

that it is possible to repair an ancient building and fit it for the use it has to serve without depriving it of its authentic character as a work of art and an historical document.

Houses, Banbury, Oxon.

The Committee learnt that two charming old houses at the end of the Horse Fair had been purchased with a view to utilising their site for the erection of a Church House. A letter was addressed to the Rector, as Chairman of the Site Committee, urging that the scheme for destroying the old houses might be reconsidered. The Society received a most unsatisfactory reply, and we understand that a tender has been accepted for building the new Church House on the site of the houses.

The Committee cannot but regret that a scheme which would naturally meet with sympathy, should be the means by which the peculiar charm and character of the vicinity, of which these two old stone-faced houses were the central feature, will be to a large extent destroyed.

Moreover, we should have thought it possible to rearrange the old buildings, and make them quite suitable for the purposes of a Church House, and we understand that another site was available, but not in so prominent a position.

Barnes Church, Surrey.

The Rector and Churchwardens propose to enlarge this church, and by their courtesy the Society was per-

mitted to see the plans which have been prepared for the purpose.

As a result the Committee addressed a letter to the authorities pointing out that if the proposals were carried into effect the existing building, which has archæological features of interest, is a valuable landmark, and a pleasing object, would be so submerged in the new work as to suffer seriously in attraction.

It was urged that even if the extra accommodation proposed were given it would not be likely to prove sufficient for any length of time, and that the better course would be to build a new church upon a new site.

Berwick-upon-Tweed Bridge.

For many years the Society has been anxious as to the fate of this bridge. The subject was referred to in the Reports for 1894 and 1897, and the Committee has since, more than once, written to the Town Council with regard to the matter.

In November last the Committee, having learnt from the public press of what was thought to be the critical condition of the bridge, and that the Town Council were obtaining an engineer's opinion, again wrote to that body.

The Committee in its letter urged the importance of considering the probable necessity of controlling the traffic over the bridge. It was pointed out that in these days of powerful and heavy traction engines, it is quite unreasonable to suppose that bridges can be expected to stand the strain of the unlimited weight which a

traction engine is capable of drawing. Attention was called to a notice upon Westminster Bridge which limits the weight drawn by a traction engine over the bridge to two and a half tons upon any wheel, thus shewing that even in the case of modern iron bridges a limitation has to be adopted. The Committee asked that the engineer should be requested to bear this matter in mind when reporting upon the bridge.

The engineer's reports have now been published. One report deals with the repairs necessary and the other, made at the particular request of the Town Council, with a suggested widening of the bridge.

With regard to the first report, although there may be points which the Society could not approve, yet taken as a whole the scheme is one of repair in the proper sense of the word.

The Committee understands that the scheme for widening the bridge is in abeyance until the repairs have been done. Should it, however, at any time be taken up it will be the duty of the Society to strenuously oppose the scheme, which would, to a large extent, rob the bridge of its artistic and architectural value.

The Old Palace, Bishop's Waltham, Hants.

The Committee has much pleasure in reporting that the works referred to in the Report for 1903 (page 9) have been completed.

As a result of a Report made by the Society in 1902, the ivy, which had obtained a strong hold of the walls and was doing serious damage by displacing the flint

facing and masonry, was cut back to the face of the walls and the main stems severed close to the ground level. This was done in the autumn of 1902 and had the desired effect. Several trees growing close to the walls were also cut down and the undergrowth cleared away from the ruins.

The walls generally are about five feet thick, solidly built of flint with stone dressings to the angles and openings. During past years, a great amount of the stonework, and the flint work on the surface of walls near the ground level, has been removed. This in places had endangered the safety of the walls, but all such portions have been carefully strengthened during the recent repairs, sufficient old flints being found on the site to reface the new work, which has been chiefly constructed with flints bonded with hard bricks in blue lias lime mortar. In order to distinguish between the new and the old work, wherever possible the former has been built slightly within the face of the ancient work.

Of the original buildings now remaining above ground the western range, facing the roadway, forms the greater portion. The principal room is the great hall, out of which lead two rooms of the same width. On the south of the great hall is a long passage in line with the west front of the range and leading to the tower and south-west angles. The tower is three storeys high above the ground floor level.

A portion of the front wall of the south range of buildings remains, east of the tower. The foundations of a large portion of this range extend along the south front.

Near the north end of the west front a portion of the walls of a gateway remain.

East of the north end of the western range stands a detached building known as the kitchen or guest house, which up to a few years since retained its roof. Close to its east end is a farmhouse, part of which is said to be the work of Bishop Langton at the end of the fifteenth century. It is built of brick and stone, and is in fair condition with the exception of the roof, which is covered with hand-made tiles in a loose and dilapidated condition, allowing the wet to penetrate and rot the timbers.

The brick wall surrounding the palace grounds on the east and south sides is of about the same date as the farmhouse. At the south-east angle, the lower portion of the walls of an octagonal building (probably another gateway) exists. The surrounding wall is a very fine specimen of fifteenth century brickwork on a most extensive scale and is in good condition.

The work of repair was begun at the north end of the western range, where it was found necessary to strengthen the jambs of the opening close to the east angle and to construct an arch over it to take the weight of the wall above. Close to this opening a large amount of flintwork had been removed. The loose flintwork was rebedded and a portion of a crack at the top of the wall bonded together for strength. The loose top of the wall, and the cornice which was badly displaced by the ivy, were rebedded and vegetation removed.

The tops of all walls were bedded with sufficient flints on the top surface to act as a weathering, so that

the appearance of the ruins has been altered as little as possible.

The east wall close to the north-east angle had, owing to the removal of flints near the ground level, become extremely weak. The weak places have been strengthened with old flints bedded in blue lias lime mortar, well bonded into the solid portions of the old wall with hard bricks at intervals.

Portions of the bulged flint facing of the west front near the ground level were taken down and rebuilt with the old flints. The cross wall, which divides the two northern rooms, contains a large opening on its east side which probably formed the original communication between them. Nothing remains but the flintwork, left after the removal of the masonry. The wall over this opening had no support and was in a dangerous condition. A relieving arch of brick, faced with flints, has been formed over the opening to carry the wall and gable above. This gable is the only remaining evidence of the original pitch of the roof. The vegetation has been removed from its top and the slopes repaired in a similar manner to that described above.

The five large windows in the west front, which lighted the great hall, are divided into two equal heights by a transom, and into two lights by a mullion. The mullion, and the centre portion of the transom and head, are gone from all the windows.

Each window head is close to the top of the wall and is formed with a moulded stone lintel on the outside face and an elliptical stone arch on the inside. Owing to the

loss of the mullion and the centre portion of the stone head, the angle stones of the head had become displaced and dangerous, and the wet was penetrating into the arch through the top of the wall and causing serious damage.

The vegetation was removed from the top of the wall and a new lintel of hand-made tiles, bedded and bonded in cement and sand, formed over the remaining portion of the stone head, and on this the top portion of the wall has been rebedded. The inside arch was uncovered on the top and the joints cleaned out and grouted with lime mortar, a new stone arch being inserted on the top of same and the wall over made good with flints bedded in cement and sand.

The sloping sills of the windows have had the flints rebedded in cement and sand to prevent the wet soaking into the walls.

Portions of the wall of the passage leading to the tower have been strengthened and the tops of the wall repaired.

The under portion of the walls of the tower, as well as the north-west angle, and a large portion of the angle of wall up to the level of the first floor, have been strengthened and a corbel to carry the angle provided.

The window openings have been strengthened and the cracks bonded across. This work entailed the use of proper centering and required great care.

The portions of the stone cornice that exist were rebedded after the removal of vegetation.

A small fifteenth century window exists on the north face of the tower at the second floor level, in good

condition with the exception of the arch in the thickness of the wall, which had perished. A lintel of tiles has been provided to the window and the wall over it made good.

On the south side of the tower at this level, a fine fifteenth century fireplace remains intact. The wall above it was dilapidated and had to be strengthened and the flue covered over with concrete to prevent wet penetrating.

To the east of the tower a small portion of the south front remains. It contains the stone jambs of a fifteenth century window at the first floor level, and two smaller windows, intact, at the ground floor level, and also a portion of the parapet.

The pier between the two small windows was gone, and the wall above was hanging up in a most dangerous condition. A new pier has been inserted and the top of the wall made waterproof. Some overhanging stones forming the head of a window at the first floor level, and which were in danger of falling, have been secured by corbelling out on the underside.

The remains of the gateway at the north end of the western front have been repaired and strengthened where necessary.

The kitchen, or guest house, had the tops of the walls rebbed, after the removal of grass. The tops of the walls were pointed with cement and sand, but as they were flat on top, it was possible to replace the vegetation with turf after the cement pointing had set.

A large piece of the face of the wall at the north-

east angle of the building had perished near the top of the wall. It was not considered necessary to renew this but the loose flints were rebbed and the face pointed with lime mortar. Other portions of the walls near the ground level were repaired.

The works were carried out under the auspices of the Society, the Architect directing them on the spot.

The Committee is convinced that the repairs and works of support will prolong the life of the ruins for an indefinite period.

The Committee feels most grateful to the Dowager Lady Jenner for defraying the expense of putting these interesting and valuable ruins into repair.

Blythburgh Church, Suffolk.

Through the good offices of a member of the Society, this building, which has been referred to in the Reports on several occasions, was again visited by one of the Society's Architects.

In accordance with the advice given, the porch, which had been condemned by an Architect, has been shored up to prevent it from falling. This porch can undoubtedly be repaired without rebuilding.

The Committee had some correspondence with the custodians of the building. The Churchwarden in a letter stated that they would be quite willing for the repairs to be carried out under the personal supervision of an Architect recommended by the Society, but at present, owing to lack of funds, they were not justified in commencing the works.

The Committee is anxious that the necessary funds should be forthcoming and it sent the following letter to the Churchwarden with a view to assisting in this direction.

16th October, 1903.

DEAR SIR,

The Committee of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings desires me to thank you for your letter and to say how glad it is to learn that the Vicar and Churchwardens have already taken the urgently necessary step of supporting the south porch by temporary shoring until sufficient funds have been obtained to put it in substantial repair without rebuilding.

Your church is a building of such exceptional value, and of such great size, that the Committee realises the impossibility of the parish providing sufficient funds to carry out the expensive repairs which are needed both to the western tower and the beautiful mediæval decorated roofs, as well as the porch, and it feels sure when the public realises that you have decided to make an effort to get this much-needed work done, and that it is your intention not to countenance "restoration," but to do the work substantially and soundly with the least possible alteration to the present aspect of the building, that you will receive the financial support which you may reasonably expect, and this Society will gladly assist you with advice at all times.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

CLAUDE F. EGERTON, ESQ.,
Churchwarden.

Bosham Church, Sussex.

Since our last report we have again visited this church and are glad to report that the tower and spire have been put into a good structural state of repair. This was greatly needed. In the case of the spire a large part of the shingling had been blown right away.

Sufficient funds have not been raised to justify the commencement of the underpinning of the north wall of the nave aisle. The Committee sincerely trusts that the work will not long be delayed, as in its opinion the underpinning is greatly needed.

Buckland-in-the-Moor Church, Devonshire.

Situated as it is in a most beautiful position, the church of Buckland-in-the-Moor is a building well worthy of every care. The Squire, who highly appreciates its value, requested the Society to visit and report to him upon the building.

The original Norman church appears to have consisted of a nave, chancel and western tower. The tower arch and south doorway are of that period and probably most of the south wall. The beautiful and richly carved font is a fine specimen of Norman work. The north arcade of three bays is of fourteenth century workmanship. The tower, which is in excellent preservation, is also fourteenth century work, although the upper part appears to belong to the fifteenth century. The richly carved screen with its coeval paintings, and the east window of the chancel, are of fifteenth century work.

The cradle roof, every boss of which is beautifully carved, appears to belong to the early part of the fifteenth century, that is, a little later than the arcade. The pulpit, which has unfortunately lost the sounding board which it must once have had, is Georgian. It is of oak veneered in parts with mahogany.

The north wall of the aisle has been rebuilt in modern times and the north transept has modern windows, but the walling appears to be the original. There are no windows on the north side of the chancel, but there is a projection containing the rood loft stairs at the west end of the wall, and although the loft has gone, the screen shews clear evidence of a loft having once existed. The south wall of the chancel has a two-light window which probably belongs to the sixteenth century.

Indications of a priests' doorway a little to the west of this window can be seen. This was doubtless blocked up when the stove was put in, and a stone chimney built against the outside of the wall. A large eighteenth or possibly nineteenth century window, with oak mullions and tracery, has been introduced at the east end of the south wall of the nave to give light to the pulpit and reading desk, which stand against the screen on the north side of the nave.

The Norman doorway has a porch with stone benches, and its outer arch has a rebate as though intended for a door or gates. To the west of the porch there is a small one-light window, the stonework of which has been renewed, but there can be but little doubt that it was originally a thirteenth century window.

The communion rail (on plan a segment of a circle) is a pretty piece of work belonging to the end of the eighteenth century, and it has a wood kneeling board.

The tower arch is blocked, and raised seats of the same date as the pews are placed at the west end of the nave for the choir, and it is interesting to learn that persons are living who can remember men playing musical instruments and sitting here.

The floor of the church is paved with monumental slabs, plain stone, and ancient encaustic tiles. The roofs are covered with small slates, and the tower roof with cast lead. The five bells were all recast in 1742.

No one, however, would realise the peculiar interest and value of this church without seeing its superb situation and surroundings. There is no modern vulgarity to offend the eye, which there certainly would have been had not the building fortunately escaped restoration. The church and churchyard are kept beautifully clean and cared for, the old churchyard wall remains and it is surrounded by fine timber and beautiful old thatched cottages, thus forming one of the most fascinating spots in the centre of some of the finest and most romantic scenery in England.

Such a building can only be properly repaired under the personal direction on the spot of someone who has had a sound practical training, and who has knowledge of mediæval work, and can appreciate its artistic as well as its historical qualities.

It is therefore with the greatest satisfaction the Committee is able to report that the Squire has agreed

to have the necessary repairs, which will shortly be taken in hand, carried out in this way by an Architect in consultation with the Society.

The Central Tower, Canterbury Cathedral.

Reports have appeared in the public press to the effect that on account of this building being in urgent need of repair, a scaffolding was to be erected to enable a thorough examination of its condition to be made.

The Committee wrote to the Dean and Chapter asking that the Society may be allowed to go upon the scaffold when it is erected, and a reply has been received to the effect that the Society may inspect the tower by arrangement with the Architect.

St. Martin's Church, Chichester.

The attention of the Committee was called to the neglected condition of St. Martin's Church, Chichester, and it therefore wrote to the Rector asking whether there was any prospect of repairs being shortly carried out.

The Rector replied to the effect that the church was devoid of architectural or historical interest and was not needed for purposes of worship; and for these reasons he proposed to take it down and enclose the site, placing a simple cross or other memorial to mark the spot. He asked the Society for a grant to help to carry this out!

The Committee in its reply to the Rector expressed surprise that he should think the building to be of such little value, as it had received an opinion from a high authority on mediæval buildings to the effect that, although the building is apparently modern, it is in reality a mediæval building which has had its original features hidden by modern work.

The Committee suggested that before a definite decision was come to with regard to the demolition of the building the question of its architectural value should be settled. To this the Rector consented, and as a result the building was examined by the Architect referred to as the Society's informant. Two questions were put to him: (1) "Is the church likely to have a mediæval fabric within its walls? (2) Is there any great and structural decay, which cannot readily be repaired?" In reply to the first question the Committee was informed that "the structure of the church is mediæval, and that under the plaster is probably hidden interesting work of ancient date. How much or how little it is impossible to say, but there is fair hope that what would be discovered might be in an original state and better preserved, than any of the other parish churches of Chichester now show." To the second question the Society's correspondent said "that structurally the church is but little in decay. Its dilapidations are superficial, and such as result from the neglect of seasonal repairs. When water is allowed to come into a roof or through walls, the plaster suffers. But the damage to the main fabric of the church is at present inconsiderable."

In spite, however, of the value of the building having been conclusively shewn, a faculty has been issued empowering its demolition.

Coln St. Denis Church Tower, Gloucestershire.

The church at Coln St. Denis is a small Norman building with a central tower but without transepts.

The tower is in a bad state of repair and the authorities were advised to pull it down and rebuild it both by an Architect and a firm of engineers.

As a result of an examination of the building the Committee was able to report that there would be no insuperable difficulty in repairing it and making it structurally sound at about half the cost of rebuilding.

The tower retains its Norman elliptical arch on the west side, the abutments of which have yielded considerably and thus given the present form to the arch. Several cracks show on the face of the plaster above. The circular staircase on the south side of the arch, of Norman date, has weakened its abutment, and considerable movement has taken place in the stone newel and steps.

The arch on the east side of the tower appears to have been rebuilt in the thirteenth century on the old Norman piers.

In the centre of the north and the south walls there is a single lancet window.

There is a peal of five bells, dated 1734. The bell cage is faulty and in bad repair.

A little below the belfry floor the walls are arched

over on the inside face by flat pointed arches, one on each face, which spring at the angles of the tower from finely carved heads. Above the arches the walls project over on the inside and are carried on corbels of late Norman date. The outside of the Norman tower finishes at this point and has a stone weathering on the top from which rise the walls of the belfry stage, which contain a two-light opening on each face.

In making the tower structurally secure it will be necessary to introduce two horizontal lintels of hard materials to relieve the arches of some of the weight of the superstructure. The arches and cracks in the masonry would be repaired in accordance with the Society's usual method, by removing the loose portions and bonding the old work well together with stone or other hard material. The bell cage would need to be rearranged and the tower repointed in places.

Of course before the repairs are taken in hand it will be necessary to carefully shore up any dangerous parts, and put temporary wood centering into all openings—a most essential precaution.

The Society is still in correspondence with the Rector upon the subject.

Corbridge-on-Tyne Bridge, Northumberland.

A professional member of the Society who recently visited this bridge, which is of seventeenth century date and the only bridge on the Tyne not washed away in the flood of 1777, informed the Society that the parapet and other parts of the structure needed attention.

The Committee approached the local body upon the subject, and it is happy to be able to report that the Society has been informed by the Northumberland County Council that the necessary repairs are to be executed.

This is a case in which the Society has, by calling the attention of those in authority to the subject, been instrumental in getting repairs taken in hand which might not otherwise have received attention.

Chapels, St. David's Cathedral.

Understanding that the authorities, who are contemplating the restoration of the unroofed chapels, would be willing to consider the Society's views upon the subject, the Committee arranged for one of its professional members to visit.

In its report to the Dean, the Committee pointed out that any proposal to restore a ruin is viewed with disfavour by the Society, and if its attention had been called to the chapels before the modern builder had touched them it would undoubtedly have urged that only protective repairs should be undertaken. But as matters stand the chapels have not the peculiar interest of untouched antiquity or the sentiment which attaches to ruins. They are not, in fact, ruins in any true sense; they are partially restored buildings and form unroofed outer courts to a building which has been wholly restored and is in actual use. So long as the Lady Chapel is in use and the chapels north and

south of it remain open to the sky, the delightful arches to the Lady Chapel vestibule have to be blocked and the beauties of the whole arrangement are largely lost to view. To recover the vista the designer intended here would be a great gain; and to roof in the chapels would improve the climate of the Lady Chapel and make the access to it more comfortable.

For these reasons the Committee did not think it necessary to combat the wishes of the authorities to roof the chapels in, but offered suggestions of a practical nature as to the character of any new building work that may be done.

Certain beautiful and rare old work exists. The Committee suggested that the aim should be to protect this and set it off to the best advantage, but not to confuse or dilute it with a mass of modern work professing to be of the same character and value as the old, still less to distract attention from it by anything at all showy or ambitious.

The Dean very kindly thanked the Society for its report and promised that it should be carefully considered. The Committee understands that the Architect has expressed his agreement with the principles enunciated in the report.

Denton Church Tower, Lincolnshire.

The Tower Repair Committee applied to the Society for a report upon the building and the possibility of being able to again ring the bells without rebuilding the tower. It should be explained that the Repair

Committee had already received reports to the effect that after the reparation of the tower it would be unwise to ring the bells.

The tower was visited by a professional member who has had exceptional experience in dealing with such structures. It was found that with care there could be no difficulty in repairing the tower in such a manner as to make it absolutely safe to ring the bells.

The tower appears to have been built in the fifteenth century. The walls are of limestone pointed on the inside and faced on the outside with a brown sandstone with grey limestone dressings to the openings and buttresses. Its total height from the ground to the top of the parapet is about eighty-six feet. There is a peal of six bells.

On plumbing the walls outside, the west face was found to be perpendicular, but the tower leans bodily towards the north one foot in its total height. It would appear as if an early settlement had taken place probably when the tower was built.

The method of repairing the various cracks, strengthening the masonry, securing the foundations, and rearranging the defective bell frame, were fully entered into in the Society's report.

It is a matter of gratification to be able to state that the Repair Committee have decided to have the tower dealt with in accordance with the Society's recommendations and under its auspices. The repairs are now in progress and the Committee proposes to give a description of them in its next Report.

It will interest the members of the Society to know that the Repair Committee was recommended to apply to the Society by a gentleman for whom it had repaired a church.

Exeter Cathedral.

We regret to say that the unfortunate restoration of the Cathedral West Front is in hand, and the fine west window, as seen from the outside, is now practically new.

Great Durnford Church, Wilts.

At the request of many friends of the Society resident in the neighbourhood, this beautifully situated and valuable building was visited by the Society, and a report prepared in which the works necessary for the preservation of the building were enumerated. This report was printed and distributed amongst those interested.

Unfortunately the majority of our friends were not parishioners, and therefore could only use their influence in favour of the Society's recommendations being adopted.

The Committee regrets to have to report that the church has been dealt with in a much more drastic way than the Society would approve, and has, in its opinion, been deprived of a considerable proportion of its value.

Greenwich, Kent, Royal Naval College.

It was stated in the public press that the window sashes at the Royal Naval College were being taken out and replaced by plate glass in single sheets.

If the statements referred to had been correct the matter would have been very serious, for a building by Sir Christopher Wren should be treated with the greatest respect, and we have no hesitation in saying that any building which has sash bars must necessarily be completely transformed if the glazing bars are removed and single sheets of plate glass fill the sashes.

The Committee made enquiries and, as will be seen from the following letter, it is glad to be able to report that the rumours were unfounded.

To the Editor of the "Morning Post."

SIR,—

I think it would be satisfactory to your readers to know that the result of this society's investigations with regard to the plate glass windows at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, has been to ascertain that plate glass windows were, some years ago, placed inside Sir Christopher Wren's sashes to exclude draught, and that the original sashes became defective and were moved for repair and renewal, thus exposing the plate glass windows. Your readers will be glad to know that all the sashes are now back in position, so that this building will not suffer the disfigurement contemplated by your correspondents.—

Yours, etc.,

THACKERAY TURNER, *Secretary.*

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

February 5th.

Crypt, Savings Bank, Guildford.

On the south side of Guildford High Street there is an exceptionally fine fourteenth century vaulted crypt

with three circular columns running down the centre. The ribs, where they spring from the walls, have fine corbels consisting of the head and shoulders of human figures.

There was at one time a proposal to interfere with the crypt with the object of improving the Savings Bank above it, but the Committee is glad to be able to report that widespread feeling against the proposal was expressed, and we believe we are justified in saying that whatever the managers of the Savings Bank decide to do, they will in no way damage the crypt.

The Manor Keep, Hexham, Northumberland.

The following correspondence illustrates one of the difficulties with which the Society has to contend. However, such replies are now happily uncommon, the work of the Society, and its aims and objects, being more readily appreciated.

Since this correspondence took place, a professional member of the Society who visited Hexham reports that the building is in process of "restoration."

10, BUCKINGHAM STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

8th January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

A member of this Society has lately been at Hexham, and has written to us saying that it is intended to erect a new parapet wall round the top of the Manor Keep.

We understand that this building forms part of your

property, and we therefore venture to address you hoping that, if our information be correct, you will permit us to urge upon you the re-consideration of the matter. For to erect a new parapet wall with its necessarily modern characteristics of regularity and rectilineal accuracy would be strangely out of keeping with the original parts of a building so much worn by time and weather as the Manor Keep. This contrast of the new with old work would also give an appearance of heaviness and overbalance to the parapet wall which would, we think, destroy the character of the building.

The Committee feels sure that you have the highest appreciation of this beautiful building, and it feels that your liberality in contemplating such a great expense, makes any comments from it seem discourteous, but nevertheless it hopes you will give the Society credit for the best intentions and be willing to correspond with it on the subject.

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed), THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

H. F. LOCKHART, ESQ.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

9th January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date. Please be good enough to inform me who is the member of your Society you refer to and the source of his information.

Yours faithfully,
H. F. LOCKHART.

THE SECRETARY,
Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

11th January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

In further reference to your letter of the 8th, will you please have the goodness to inform me in addition to the information asked for by my letter of the 9th, the names of the members of the Committee who passed the resolution directing you to write to me.

Yours faithfully,
H. F. LOCKHART.

THE SECRETARY

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

10, BUCKINGHAM STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

12th January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 9th and 11th inst., and to inform you that they shall be laid before the Committee of this Society at its next meeting.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,
(Signed), THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

H. F. LOCKHART, ESQ.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND,

14th January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday, and observe, but having regard to the nature of my questions, the necessity of waiting for a meeting of your Committee before answering them is not apparent.

Yours faithfully,
H. F. LOCKHART.

THE SECRETARY,

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

10, BUCKINGHAM STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

15th January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

I had the pleasure of laying your letters of the 9th and of the 11th inst. before the Committee of this Society at its meeting held here yesterday, and I was directed to thank you for the same and to inform you that it has always been a strict rule of the Society never to give the names of its correspondents except in a few instances where the correspondents have requested that it should do so, and even when requested it has not thought it in all cases desirable to do so.

With regard to your desire to be informed of the names of my Committee I am directed to forward you a complete list of the names of the gentlemen who form the Committee, and which I herewith enclose.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THACKERAY TURNER,

Secretary.

H. F. LOCKHART, Esq.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

22nd January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 15th. You will please inform the next meeting of the Society, that having regard to this reply to my letters, I consider the action of my would-be anonymous correspondents (I refer to the people responsible for your original communication to me) as an unmitigated impertinence and beg leave to express the view, that unless such members of the Society as are sensible men are able and willing to take

upon themselves the burden of directing its operations they ought to dissolve the Society and not permit the cause which it is established to further, to be made a fool of.

Yours faithfully,
H. F. LOCKHART.

THE SECRETARY,
Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings.

10, BUCKINGHAM STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

29th January, 1904.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd inst. and to inform you that I read it to my Committee at its meeting held here yesterday.

The Committee directed me to thank you for your letter and to inform you that, unless it hears you have any objection, it proposes to publish the correspondence in its Report for this year.

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

H. F. LOCKHART, Esq.

Holme-on-Spalding Moor Church, Yorkshire.

This church was visited and reported upon at the request of the Vicar.

The building has a grand position on a hill commanding comparatively flat country in all directions, and its lofty and beautiful tower forms a landmark for

many miles round. It has a thirteenth century nave of three bays and two-light thirteenth century clerestory windows. Although the windows of the aisles are of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the walls are probably the original thirteenth century walls. Unfortunately, the western portion of the north wall has been rebuilt, and the whole wall replastered on the inside, but otherwise the church is in a genuine condition, although in urgent need of repair.

The chancel walls are probably original thirteenth century work. The nave opens into it by a two centred chamfered arch without respond projections. The south wall has a square low-side window, a thirteenth century priests' doorway, an early fifteenth century piscina with the original oak credence shelf over, and two fifteenth century windows of two lights each, the sill of the eastern window being taken down to form a sedilia. The east wall has a three-light fifteenth century window.

The north wall of the chancel has a modern doorway and what appears to be a fourteenth century blocked-up archway leading into what is now two vestries, but what appears originally to have been a chapel with a vestry at the east end. The walls of the building are formed by the continuation of the north wall of the nave aisle. It is hard to say whether the wall dividing the two vestries is modern or not, but its doorway is modern. The doorway has the remains of beautiful early fifteenth century screen work secured to it—probably the remains of the rood screen.

There is a single-light window in the east wall, which has lost its outside stonework excepting the sill, and has a wood frame.

The outer vestry has two late fourteenth or early fifteenth century windows.

The windows of the nave aisles are of fifteenth century work, excepting the westernmost windows of the north aisle, which are sixteenth century two-light windows.

The south porch is a plain, well-built brick structure, the lower part of the east and west walls being the original stone walls.

The western tower is externally slightly narrower than the nave, and has had the north and south aisles extended to within a few inches of its external western face. It has an arch opening into each aisle as well as into the nave, massive angle buttresses, and a turret staircase formed at the north-west angle. It was probably begun in the fifteenth century, and was slow in building. The first stage is rubble faced and was doubtless plastered.

The buttresses, doorway and window dressings are all of ashlar, and the whole tower above is of fine ashlar work. The bell chamber has four beautiful two-light traceried windows. The tower is finished with eight pinnacles, with a beautiful pierced parapet with finials and crockets. All the pinnacles have lost their upper parts. Each buttress has a small pinnacle finishing just below the parapet, but the north-east one has gone.

With the exception of the porch, which is pan-tiled,

the whole of the roofs are covered with cast lead, the timbers being of oak in very bad repair.

The whole building is in need of a large amount of work to make it structurally sound, and this should of course be the first consideration, but, beyond this, much is required to render it better fitted for divine worship.

In its report, the Committee fully described the works necessary for the preservation of the building, and rendering it better fitted for the use it has to serve, and pointed out the importance of the work being carried out under the personal supervision of the Architect on the spot.

From the correspondence which the Society has had with the Vicar, we gather that he is in sympathy with the recommendations contained in the report, but does not see his way to having the work done under the personal direction of the Architect. The Committee deeply regrets this, for it is convinced that its recommendations cannot be satisfactorily carried out without such direction, and, moreover, experience shews that this is the most economical course to pursue.

St. Magnus' Cathedral, Kirkwall, Orkney.

A view of this building was given in the Report for 1900, together with a letter which had been sent to the Town Council of Kirkwall, the custodians of the building. The Committee then stated that a scheme of restoration was under consideration, and that it was very anxious as to the result. It regrets to state that its anxiety was fully justified, for the works which have

been carried out seriously detract from the value of the building. The Society's recommendations have been entirely ignored.

In March, 1901, as the result of a visit made to the Cathedral by two of the professional members of the Society, a letter was again addressed to the Town Council calling their attention to the destructive works then going on.

Attention was called to the fact that, instead of the old pointing being repaired where repair was most needed, nearly the whole has been gone over, the filling of the old joints being raked out and the new pointing filled in in a uniform and commonplace way—and, worse than all, the new pointing has been lined out in a way entirely unsympathetic with the character of ancient work. In the same letter the Society appealed to the Town Council to again consider the results of a general scheme of going over ancient work in a uniform way instead of careful detailed repair of any portions worst decayed, leaving the rest to be dealt with in the future as the occasion may arise. Attention was also especially invited to the noble west front, as yet untouched by a modern hand. This front did not require large pointing repairs, and it was explained that if the masonry of the front was treated like the adjoining bays on the north side an irreparable injury would be done. The letter concluded with some technical advice on pointing and the composition of the mortar.

The Town Council requested the Architect under whose direction the work was being executed to reply to

the Council with regard to the points raised in the Society's letter and they expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with his reply.

In 1902, in the reply to further inquiries addressed to the Council, the Society was referred to the Architect, "by whose advice and according to whose directions the repairs were being carried out."

The correspondence with the Architect proved entirely one-sided and the Council took up the position that it was not in their province to make the Architect reply to the Society's letters if he did not think proper to do so.

A member of the Society visited the cathedral in August, 1903, and reported that the south aisle was being scraped and that the traces of ornament on the ribs of the arches were to be destroyed.

Many protests have appeared in the public press against the works which have been carried out and the Society has received similar communications. In spite, however, of these protests the money legacy left for the preservation of the fabric is being spent on its destruction so far as its historical and architectural value is concerned.

St. Nicholas' Church, Leicester.

A scheme for the restoration of this Church came to the knowledge of the Committee, and it was arranged that a professional member of the Society should visit the building.

The Society's representative was courteously received by the Vicar and the Architect and shown over the

building. The chief question to be decided was the treatment of the central tower, which stands between the nave and chancel with an aisle on either side. It has arches opening into the nave, the chancel, and each of the aisles, above which, on the inside, is a beautiful wall arcade with square pilasters carrying the arches. Externally, just above the level of the nave parapet, Roman tiles are built in the tower, herring-bone fashion, which suggests that this portion of the work is Saxon, although there is but little doubt that it is all Norman work. Above this herring-bone work the tower is in two stages of arcading, five arches on the lower stage, and six (forming interlacing arches) on the upper stage, above which there is a projecting cornice carried on corbels, which until a short time ago carried a perfectly plain stone parapet with short pinnacles at each angle. Part of the parapet fell some time since and has been replaced by a plain brick parapet without pinnacles.

None of the shafts carrying the arches are now to be seen, although one is stated to remain behind the clock face on the south side.

Some years ago the tower was found to be in a critical condition, and it was then tied together with iron rods and all the arcades built up flush with the wall face, so that at present the only stonework to be seen is in the arches of the wall arcades, which are not moulded or ornamented in any way, and the stonework which comes flush with them. Also the cornice and corbels and the wall face below the arcading where the Roman tile herring-bone work occurs are of stone.

The scheme for dealing with the building referred to above, provides for the "restoration" of the tower, taking out the brickwork and putting in new caps, bases and shafts.

The Committee pointed out to the custodians of the church that if this were done, it was convinced that most of the stonework remaining would have to be replaced with new stonework, and the result would be that, to the ordinary beholder, it would appear as a new tower. From the archæological, the architectural, or the pictorial point of view, such treatment would be fatal.

In spite, however, of the efforts made by the Society, and also by the local Archæological Society, the authorities have decided to carry out the scheme of "restoration." There are considerable cracks in the walls, but the repairs which were done when the ties were put in appear to have proved thoroughly effectual and no sign of recent movement appears.

With regard to the rest of the building, there are Saxon clerestory windows on the north side of the nave which now open into the north aisle. The whole of the north aisle was rebuilt some years ago, but the stonework is badly decayed and a considerable sum of money will have to be spent in renewing this modern work.

The interior of the church has had all the internal plaster removed from the walls. As the stone surface of the walls was never intended to be exposed, this was a lamentable mistake. All the rough projections catch and hold the dirt, and the interior of the building, besides

being unhealthily dirty, looks gloomy and unfit for human use. The Committee advised that the walls should be replastered with the thinnest possible coat of plaster laid on as smooth as possible with a trowel and allowed to follow the surface of the wall closely, leaving the parts of special archæological interest, such as the Saxon windows, exposed to view and unplastered.

It will be seen that the greater portion of the proposed expenditure on the Tower is in the Society's opinion unnecessary and harmful, whereas the money might have been spent with good results upon other necessary works to the building.

Crypt of St. John's Priory Church, Clerkenwell, London.

The works referred to in the Society's reports for 1899 and 1901 are now completed, and an examination has been made by the Society.

The Committee has pleasure in reporting that as a whole the works have been wisely and well done, and it has felt justified in handing over the sum placed in its hands by members of the Society to be given or withheld at its discretion. It is unfortunate, however, that any encaustic tiles should have been used in the flooring, and that the east window of the south aisle should have been designed to follow mediæval work, though the evil of this will be lessened by the date being placed upon the work.

It is a matter of extreme regret to the Committee to find the ancient stonework decaying on the surface so

rapidly. In reply to the Society's enquiries, the Rector states that a preparation has been tried on a portion of the stonework, and, as this appears satisfactory, instructions have been given to treat the whole of the stonework with it. The Committee sincerely trusts that the preparation will be successful in arresting the decay, but as far as its experience goes it is inclined to believe that, except under the advice of a good chemist, lime is the only safe remedy.

All Hallows', Lombard Street, London, E.C.

All lovers of the work of Sir Christopher Wren will be gratified at the decision of the parishioners not to agree to the scheme for the demolition of this interesting building.

The Committee congratulates the City Churches Preservation Society on the result, which is largely due to the energetic action taken by that body.

Ancient Bridge, Lostwithiel, Cornwall.

The Committee was anxious as to the ultimate fate of this beautiful bridge, and it therefore addressed the following letter to the County Council :

To the Clerk of the Cornwall County Council.

SIR,

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings has for many months past been anxious lest the objections raised to the ancient bridge at Lostwithiel should result in its mutilation or destruction.

It was informed that the Great Western Railway were contemplating works which would affect the bridge. It therefore approached the Company and received a courteous assurance that though a scheme for substituting a bridge for the level crossing was under consideration, it was believed that it could be effected without interfering with the ancient bridge, and therefore the Society believed that the bridge was safe from any proposal to mutilate or remove it.

It has now, however, been informed that the Town Council of Lostwithiel has decided to petition the County Council to make alterations to the bridge with a view of preventing the town from being flooded.

The Committee of this Society, therefore, desires that your Council will kindly allow it to ask that, before any definite action is taken, the Society may be allowed to know what proposals are made with a view of meeting the difficulty of any water obstruction which may be caused by the bridge? At the same time my Committee would venture to point out that this bridge is of considerable antiquity, and it is difficult to believe that the water which passes through it is more harmful than it was in years gone by.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

12th February, 1904.

The Committee is glad to be able to report that the Council has replied to the effect that it does not contemplate any alteration to the bridge, and the Council has informed the Town Council that if the silt below the bridge was removed by the Urban Authority the dangers of flooding would be materially lessened.

Malmesbury Abbey, Wilts.

The following report, made at the request of the Committee by one of its professional members who is well qualified to give an opinion, is of interest.

The Committee entirely agrees with the views set forth therein

"I visited Malmesbury on behalf of the Society, and was much interested in examining what had been done. Although there is a good deal done that I do not agree with and think that the Society could not approve, the work seems to have been thoughtfully directed, and there is no doubt that it will conduce to the lastingness of the ruinous parts of the structure as well as the occupied portion.

"The fractured ends of ruined walls have all been stopped with cement mortar, good lead down pipes have been liberally set up and channel-stone gutters have been laid below. In all this I feel that there might be differences of *taste* on certain points but I do not feel that there is anything which should not be approved. Again I should say that there appears to have been no tampering with the ancient work. Where I believe the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings cannot endorse the work executed is in the added portions, which generally may be said to be excessive and of an imitative character. Such additional works are considerable and on the ground of their expense alone the Society could not approve of such work.

"The western bays of the north aisle appear to have

been completed or restored (I am not quite sure of the original state here) with a good many new moulded stones and new *carved* bosses.

"To the exterior considerable lengths of traceried parapet have been put up: the whole *north wall* of the clerestory of the western bays of the nave (which stands in the open) has been completed up to the full height as if it were an invitation to renew the last bays of the nave at some time: the north-western turret has been carried up for I suppose a dozen feet with wall arcade and square parapet top and a level connection made with the west gable.

"In all this work architectural 'features' have been imitated and conjectural finishes imagined, and portions have been carved.

"One distinction there is in this work from the old-fashioned view of 'bringing back' the supposed original condition. In this work certain modifications have been made as, for instance, a decorated Norman moulding is repeated without the decorations, and *all* the carving done, whether to renewed 'Norman' portions or to renewed 'fourteenth century' parts is executed in the 'Decorated Style.' Thus the bosses of the two west compartments of the aisle vault in the north-west corner have new 'Decorated' bosses and the same is true of the exterior."

Melverley Church, Shropshire.

The charming fourteenth century timber church at Melverley, owing to its close proximity to the river, is

in considerable danger. In response to an appeal from the Rector, the Society visited the building. It was found that the church stands on the top of a bank about fifty feet back from the river and about twenty feet above its normal level. During floods the river rises to within a few feet of its west end, and a former roadway between the church and the river has been swept away.

During the last few years steps have been taken to try and stop its gradual encroachment by constructing a kind of breakwater, in a slanting direction from the bank, driven into the bed of the river, on which are placed branches of trees with stones on the top of them.

What appears necessary is a permanent construction along the bank to guard against the encroachment of the river at its normal level, as well as a retaining wall at the top of the bank, to prevent the ground being swept away during flood times. This, unfortunately, would necessitate the outlay of a larger sum than can possibly be hoped for.

The Society, therefore, recommended the strengthening of the present breakwaters and the erection of a more permanent structure above them, to prevent the river from washing away the bank, and to gradually alter the course of the river.

The Rector, in thanking the Society for its advice, stated that he hoped to be able to carry it into effect.

Mugginton Church, Derbyshire.

At the request of the Rector, this church was visited

on behalf of the Society. The tower is the portion of the building which presses most for attention.

In recent years the early pointed arch between the nave and tower has been opened by removing the walling that filled it, and at the same time the remains of a still earlier round arched window above it were unblocked. The unblocking of the window took weight off the point of the tower arch and added weight part way down it. This would have been unimportant if the tower arch had remained built up. It would then still have been supported from the ground. As it is, several of the arch stones are cracking and something must be done. The simplest thing to do is what the wise churchwarden did before—to build it up. This might be done without hiding up the character of the old archway, and would keep out draughts better than the present boarding. There are many cracks in the tower which are probably due to bad foundations, and a defective bell cage.

The rest of the church is in need of general repair, but nothing of a nature to cause anxiety. Of course the manner in which such repairs are carried out is of the utmost importance, for if they are done in an unskilful way, or without regard to the antiquity of the building, irreparable harm would result.

The Committee gathers from the Rector that nothing of a definite nature has yet been settled.

Suckling Monument, St. Andrew's Church, Norwich.

The Society was asked by a descendant of Sir John

Suckling to recommend a competent person to report upon this monument. This the Committee did, and a report was prepared and submitted to the Society, after which it was forwarded to our correspondent.

The monument is in good structural condition, but the inscriptions were becoming illegible, and in a few years would probably have been undecipherable. It was recommended, among other slight repairs, that the inscriptions should be repainted.

We understand that the works have been carried out, and our correspondent has forwarded a donation to the Society as an acknowledgment of the help which it was able to give.

It is a matter of satisfaction to the Committee that the Society should have been appealed to, as it is always anxious to render assistance wherever possible.

Onibury Church, Shropshire.

In the Report for 1902 (pages 29 and 30), a description of this building was given, and in the 1903 Report (pages 34 and 35) it was stated that the Patron had decided to have the building repaired in accordance with the Society's recommendations.

The following is a short description of the works of repair which have now been completed.

Dealing first with the chancel, the walls were found to be in fair condition with the exception of the south wall, which leans outward at the top, and a rather serious crack below and above the three-light window in the east wall. The foundations were first examined. The

ground had accumulated against the walls on the outside, with the result that the damp soaked into the walls and loosened the foundation stones.

The ground was excavated, the loose stones removed and carefully rebbed in short lengths in cement and sand and pinned up tight to the solid portion of the wall.

A concrete channel laid to proper falls and faced with hard stone was afterwards made around the walls, at the floor level of the building, with proper gullies and pipes to carry the surface and rainwater away from the building.

In dealing with the crack in the east wall it was necessary to shore up the pointed arch over the window. The wall was then repaired and the cracks bonded across. The arch stones were refixed in position and well grouted together.

The settlement extended through the window sill down to the foundation and had evidently been caused by a grave which exists against the outside of the east wall.

The foundation was underpinned and the crack repaired chiefly from the inside of the wall.

The wall was then repointed flush with the surface of the wall and all loose stones rebbed. The surface of the north wall was treated in a similar manner.

The bulge in the south wall appeared to be old and was probably caused by the thrust of the roof when it was covered with thick stone tiles. Cracks existed over the easternmost lancet window, and one at the west end of the wall. These have been repaired and well bonded across.

At some previous period, probably when the present roof was constructed, the upper portion of the wall was fired out on battens with lath and plaster on the inside face, in order to make it upright.

The chancel arch was found to be in a very dilapidated condition. On the removal of the modern plaster on the nave side, the Norman arch was found to exist—of two stone rings, the inner one being recessed about nine inches from the face of the outer one. The arch stones were roughly shaped and bedded with large joints, the mortar of which had perished. The wall above the arch had become completely disintegrated. The south abutment had been weakened by a portion of the wall face having been cut away for access to the pulpit. On removing the plaster it was found to be badly cracked. The loose walling was rebuilt in a solid manner, the new work being well bonded to the old.

The walling above the arch, the joints of the arches and the wall over the north side, were then made good.

Instead of the wall continuing up to form the east gable of the nave it was found to finish at the level of the north and south walls, the gable being formed with a principal similar to those of the nave roof, filled in between the timbers with a mixture of clay, chopped straw and twigs, the face of the wall being set back about nine inches from the wall below. This recess had been battened out to the face of the wall with modern lath and plaster, which on removal exposed the surface of the old filling in to the gable, covered with limewash with traces of painting upon it.

In order to strengthen the wall a lintel of hard material was constructed on the top of the wall immediately beneath the tiebeam of the principal.

The walls of the nave were found to be sound, with the exception of a serious crack at the north-west corner which was repaired.

The tower walls were in a most serious condition. The foundations were found to be sound.

The numerous cracks and disintegrated walling were, after the provision of shoring, carefully made good and the walls thoroughly strengthened. The outside pointing was repaired where necessary and the top of parapet which was loose, rebedded and carefully pointed.

The tower roof, of pyramid form, was repaired, slates taking the place of zinc, and the defective lead of gutters being recast. The four bells have been put in thorough working order (but one of them is cracked), the oak bell frame being repaired and strengthened.

Oak posts have been inserted at the four angles of the tower, braced and bolted together with diagonal pieces, from the underside of beams supporting the bell frame, down to the first floor level, where they rest on beams across the top of the floor beams. This counteracts the vibration of the bells and relieves the upper portion of the tower of some of the weight.

A new oak floor has been put in at the first floor level, to prevent draught in the church, and new louvres in the belfry windows to protect the timbers, etc., from the wet driving in. Iron frames, with leaded glazing and casements, have been put into the other openings of the tower.

The roofs of the nave and chancel have been overhauled and repaired, the modern cast-iron eaves, gutters and down pipes, being no longer needed, have been removed.

The rough cast on the north and south sides of the nave and the south side of the chancel has been repaired, and the window masonry repointed where necessary.

The porch has been thoroughly repaired and the roof made sound and weatherproof.

The internal walls of the nave and chancel are covered with ancient plaster, which had several coats of limewash upon it. Upon the removal of the latter traces of paintings were discovered. These were left exposed together with various inscriptions. The plastering generally has been repaired.

The windows of the church have been repaired.

The floor of the chancel of brick and stone has been relaid on a bed of broken rubbish and concrete, and the stone paving in the passages of nave relaid in a similar manner, the boarded floors under the seats being renewed.

The old altar table, formerly in the tower, has been placed in the chancel.

Three interesting cast-iron ornamental memorial slabs, dated 1666, 1671, 1673, were found during the repairs to the chancel floor. They relate to a family named Walker, and each bears a fine coat of arms. They have been fixed in the floor of the chancel. Such slabs are common in Sussex, but we do not know of other instances in Shropshire.

Some seventeenth century pews in the nave have been

repaired, and oak seats of simple design take the place of modern deal pews.

The sixteenth century pulpit has been repaired, and oak posts placed under the modern portion of the gallery to take the place of cast-iron columns, the modern deal front of the gallery being replaced by one of oak of simple design.

The warming of the building has been attended to, one of the stoves already in the building being sufficient for the purpose.

It will readily be understood that the works enumerated above could not have been carried out except under the supervision on the spot of an Architect having practical experience of the repair of ancient buildings. Had the works been done by contract or in the usual manner of "restoration," the building would, of necessity, after their completion have retained very little of the interest it now possesses.

Central Tower, Rochester Cathedral.

A new central tower is to be added to Rochester Cathedral to take the place of the present one. The Committee, realising the value of the arches under the tower, wrote to the Dean and Chapter and respectfully asked whether their Architect had reported that the arches were strong enough to carry the new tower without interfering with them. A reply was received to the effect that the Dean and Chapter have every confidence in their Architect, and are sure that he will have taken precautions with regard to the matter to which the Com-

mittee referred. The letter concluded by saying that the Society's letter would be forwarded to the Architect.

As a result of this reply the following resolution was passed by the Committee and forwarded to the Dean and Chapter.

"That in the opinion of the Society it is a risky proceeding to re-weight ancient arches of wide span."

Sheriff Hutton Church, Yorks.

The Committee learnt that it was proposed to carry out some repairs to the tower of this building and it appealed to the Vicar for information. The Vicar, in his reply, stated that he would be grateful for any advice as to the treatment of the tower. The Committee therefore arranged for a professional member of the Society to visit.

The tower is an impressive building, but unfortunately it is in a very insecure condition, which seems to have been caused by the cutting through of arches in the north and south walls, thus throwing the weight, which was originally carried by the whole length of the north and south walls, on to four piers.

The Committee considers that centering should be put in to all openings so as to temporarily relieve the piers of weight, and that the piers should be taken in hand one at a time. and a widespreading base of cement concrete put in and the piers underpinned upon it. After this had been done the slow but simple process of cutting out the defective core of the wall, and substitu-

ting hard material in cement, should be followed until the whole of the walls have been made sound from top to bottom.

The Committee regrets that there is a difficulty in obtaining sufficient funds to repair the tower in the proper manner. It is of opinion that much might still be done to prolong its life at a smaller expenditure by introducing ties of iron or copper above the springing of the arches. It is in communication with the Vicar upon this question, but it is sorry the repairs cannot, for want of funds, be carried out in the best way possible.

The Tower, Shrewsbury Abbey Church, Shropshire.

The Vicar and Churchwardens of Holy Cross appealed to the Society for advice respecting the condition of the tower of that building. It was explained that they had a report from an Architect who recommended the entire recasing of the tower, to which they were strongly opposed, as it would utterly destroy the character and beauty of the tower.

The tower is 104ft. high, with walls 5ft. 6in. thick, apparently well built. Unfortunately, the surface of the stone has badly decayed. The wet seems to have caused the mortar to perish, and gradually worn the surface of the stone away. There are also, in addition to other defects, bad cracks, and some of the buttresses are very much perished.

The Society in its report recommended the repair of the cracks, the treatment of the surfaces in such a

manner as would preserve the authentic character of the tower, the repair of the buttresses and other necessary works. The decayed stonework would be cut off and the beds of the stones thoroughly cleaned out so as to allow of portions of thin tiles being fixed in the beds, flush with the face of wall, and on these tiles blue lias lime mortar would be used in making up the cavities flush with the old stonework.

The Vicar thanked the Society for the report, and said he hoped to communicate with it again when the necessary funds are in hand with a view of carrying out the Society's recommendations.

Sutton Courtenay Church, Berks.

In the last Report (pages 43 and 44) we give a description of this building, which was then about to be repaired under the auspices of the Society, and we promised to give a description of the repairs in the present report.

The work has chiefly consisted in making the fabric sound and weatherproof, and in rendering the interior of the building better fitted for worship.

The walls generally were found to be in fair condition, with the exception of the chancel arch and the east walls of the north and south aisles.

The walls are built of stone plastered on the inside. The external face of the walls is rubble, which was covered with modern rough cast in bad condition, patches of which had fallen off, while the greater portion was bulged away from the face of the walls.

As a general rule the Society is opposed to the removal of rough cast, but in this case it was necessary to entirely remove it. The rubble facing of the walls was found to consist of good stone, although of small sizes. After careful consideration it was thought to be best to point the walls with good mortar, keeping it flush with the stonework and covering all receding stones.

The rough cast on the top portion of the tower was in a better condition, and this has been carefully repaired and the parapet and masonry of the openings repointed.

The masonry of the windows generally has been repaired and strengthened where necessary.

Owing to the accumulation of earth on the outside of the church above the level of the floors the building was damp. The ground has been excavated, and a concrete channel faced with hard brown York stone formed round the church at the floor level, dished and laid to falls so as to convey the water from the roofs away from the building, by means of socketted pipes to soakaway pits in the churchyard. The walls of the building below the level of the channel were well cleaned, pointed, and loose stones rebbed before the concrete for the channel was put in.

The chancel arch and the east walls of the north and south aisles were found to be in a most serious condition. A bad settlement had taken place in the arch itself, which was depressed and badly twisted. A strong cradle shore was constructed under the arch as a temporary shore and the wall of the south abutment shored

up. On examination it was found that the foundation was on loose ground, and the ground had to be excavated six feet below the floor level before a solid foundation was reached.

The work of underpinning this abutment and the east wall of the south aisle down to this solid foundation has been done with hard material bedded in cement and sand.

The east wall of the north isle had to be treated in a similar manner, owing to a heating chamber which had unfortunately been constructed below the ground level against the outside of the wall.

The south abutment of the chancel arch and a portion of the east wall of the south aisle above the floor level were badly cracked and displaced owing to the settlement. The wall on the north side of the arch was found to be in a similar condition. These defects were made good and during the process it was possible to clean out the joints of the arch stones, and well grout with liquid cement and sand.

A horizontal lintel of hard material has been constructed in the thickness of the wall over the top of the arch to relieve it of some of the weight of the superstructure, and the upper portion of the wall has been well pinned up on this lintel.

By careful treatment the fine coat of arms, of the Charles period, which was painted on the west face of the wall over the arch, was not damaged during the process of the work.

The plaster, where removed, was replaced with similar plaster.

During the strengthening works over the south side of the arch, the old hole was found where the beam of the rood loft had rested in the wall. The plaster has been finished around this hole so as to permit of future observation.

The roof of the nave was next dealt with. The old oak rafters and purlins were found to be in fair condition. They were boarded on top with rough oak boards spaced apart, on which the cast lead covering rested.

The timbers were covered with several coats of paint which have been carefully removed and the oak left in its natural state and strengthened where necessary with new oak. New deal boarding was laid on the top of the old oak boarding, and on this deal battens were nailed to form an air space. On these battens deal boarding was placed on which the old lead, which had been recast, was laid in sheets of proper sizes. The gutters were reconstructed and new lead flashings provided.

The aisle roofs were covered with cast lead which has been carefully repaired and in places recast.

The windows of the clerestory have been carefully repaired and repointed.

The glazing of nearly all the windows is of old clear glass. The leadwork has been repaired and renewed where required, and the casements put into proper working order.

Remains of old stained glass in the eyes of the aisle windows have been carefully preserved.

The glazing of the chancel windows is of modern

clear glass and thin leadwork, and looks extremely poor in comparison with the old glass and leadwork of the other windows.

The stonework of the nave arcade was thickly covered with limewash, which was, without damage to the face of the stone, cleaned off.

The ancient plaster remains on the walls of the nave and aisles. On the careful removal of the limewash from the surface of the plaster, traces of old wall paintings were found. Undoubtedly at one time the surface of the walls above the nave arcade was covered with a series of paintings.

The coat of arms over the chancel arch, already referred to, has unfortunately been repainted in recent years. Above the coat of arms, in the space enclosed by the principal of the roof, the sun and clouds are painted on the surface of the plaster.

The removal of the limewash from the face of the plaster over the chancel arch brought to light, on either side of the coat of arms, a painting of the ten commandments on the plaster in black letters (probably done at the beginning of the last century), and surrounded by a red border.

A painting of St. George and the Dragon, in a very dilapidated condition, was found on the north wall of the aisle, close to the north doorway.

Other paintings of bequests occur on the west wall of the north aisle, and on the west end of the north and south aisle walls, and a large one over the tower arch.

The floors of the passages, paved with old tiles and brick and stone, have been carefully repaired.

The boarded floors under the seats were found to be completely decayed, having been constructed on the top of the soil. The soil has been excavated and a six-inch bed of coke breeze concrete laid on six inches of broken brick rubbish provided. On the top of this concrete, new floors of English oak have been fixed in mastic, well nailed into the coke breeze.

The old oak and deal seats and pews have been carefully repaired and rearranged.

A fine old Jacobean pulpit has been presented to the church and placed at the south-east angle of the nave. The previous modern stone pulpit was entirely out of keeping with its surroundings.

The door to the south aisle was faced with deal paneling. On this being removed, the old fifteenth century door was found. The panels are enriched with tracery and mouldings which are much worn, and portions of the raised styles had been cut away in order to fix the deal panelling on its face. The door has been carefully repaired.

A portion of the west end of the north aisle was formerly screened off for a vestry. The vestry has now been arranged beneath the tower, the bells being rung from the first floor level, where a new floor has been laid on the old joists.

The three windows in the ringing chamber of the tower were without glazing. Leaded lights in oak frames have been fitted on the inside of the openings and

casements provided in the same. A new deal casing has been put to protect the works of the clock. The walls, internally, have been repaired and limewashed.

The bell frame has been repaired and strengthened with iron straps and bolts, so that the vibration from the ringing of the bells does not cause the frame to rock and thus injure the tower.

When removing the modern stone steps on which the old Norman font had been placed, the original Norman base was found intact under them. This has been fixed on a good foundation, and the font placed upon it.

In accordance with the Society's custom the work has been carried out under the personal supervision of the Architect on the spot in consultation with the Committee. The Vicar has written to the Society expressing his satisfaction at the skill and pains taken in seeing that the work was done in a way that conserved all the ancient features and interest of the church, and yet with a due regard for the present use of the building and the convenience of the worshippers.

The Society has subscribed, from its Building Fund, £5 towards the cost of the repairs.

Mediæval Hall, Simnel Street, Southampton.

In the report for 1900 it was stated that the Town Council had resolved to retain this building. An effort has lately been made to rescind this resolution and the matter is still under consideration by the Council.

Energetic action has been taken in favour of the pre-

servation of the Crypt by local antiquaries, supported by numerous Societies.

The Committee has written to the Town Council begging that body not to depart from its decision to preserve the building.

As was stated in the note in the 1900 Report it is astounding that such a valuable building should ever have been in danger.

Probably the best thing that could happen would be for the crypt to be built over. Suggestions have been made for forming new roads, by which the crypt would be under the footpath and just out into the roadway. This, the Committee is afraid would, if carried into effect, be fatal to the future welfare of the building, for undoubtedly as the traffic increased it would become an obstruction, and there would almost certainly be an outcry for its removal which it would be difficult, if not impossible, to resist.

Tintern Abbey.

The Committee requested one of the professional members of the Society to inspect the works which have been carried out at Tintern Abbey.

The following is his report.

"As desired by the Committee I visited Tintern Abbey on April 25th. I found the Abbey in its general appearance just as it was when I paid my last visit two years ago, before it passed under the care of the Commissioners of Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues.

"It is certainly the best time of the year to see the ruined Abbey, which was covered with a mass of flowers

in bloom, of every imaginable colour, and thousands of jackdaws and pigeons busy building their nests. A man was hard at work raking out the flowers by the roots, and he told me this was done three times during the year, the rarest varieties being spared. The lower part of the buttresses, in past times having been robbed of their ashlar facings for local building purposes, are now being rebuilt with rubble masonry ; this is necessary and is being done in a frankly modern spirit. Up to the present time visitors have entered the Abbey through the west door, ringing for admission, and the caretaker living in the cottage which has been removed could easily attend to this arrangement, now the entrance is through the newly exposed ruins of the Lay Brothers' building and by means of a clicking turnstile with a covering of corrugated iron, hidden from the outside it is true, but not pleasing. The general surroundings of the Abbey have been greatly improved, the north side has been thrown open, formerly there was no passage on this side, and now there is nicely kept grass right round the Abbey, giving many highly interesting new views of the buildings. The workmen at the present time are repairing the Sacristy, and are doing it in quite a reverent spirit. I may say that some repairs finished last year, the walls having been covered with asphalte and then turfed, would only be apparent to those with special knowledge of old buildings, and then only by the style of masonry. The main walls, and the arches across the choir and presbytery are now closed to the public, as they are not considered safe, and stones were constantly being dislodged by people walking upon them—the repair of these is being considered. Mr. Waller, of Gloucester, is advising the Commissioners."

Statues, Wells Cathedral.

These statues are of such remarkable value, that the Committee is particularly anxious that everything should be done to prolong their existence.

The following letter was sent to the Dean and Chapter :

TO THE VERY REV. THE DEAN, AND THE CHAPTER
OF WELLS.

GENTLEMEN,

The Committee of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings trusts you will not deem it presumptuous if it ventures to lay before you a proposal for taking experimental steps towards arresting the surface decay of the statues on the west front of Wells Cathedral.

It is the more bold to do so as it is aware that you are yourselves fully alive to the urgent importance of this duty, and its excuse must be, if any be needed, that it is of the deepest concern not only to you, the guardians of the church, but to the Society, and to all who take an intelligent interest in the architectural monuments of the country, that all possible efforts shall be made to secure the preservation unimpaired for future generations of what is by common consent the most precious and unique collection of mediæval figure sculpture that remains to us in England.

It has been reported to the Society that the ancient statues on the west front show clear evidence of their once having been coloured. This colour, now showing chiefly as a yellowish film on the heads of the figures where it has been less exposed to the weather, has protected the surface of the stone in many places in a perfect way. In very many places it may be observed how the elements of disintegration have eaten through the outer skin, and how the stone in these places is blistering and falling away in dusty decay. Beyond this slow surface decay the stone is throughout its substance being weakened in its power of cohesion, and whatever care is taken of the statues, it is likely that portions will from time to time fall away.

The Committee believes that there is only one course

which will definitely preserve these works of art, that is to give back to them a weather skin once more.

It can hardly venture to recommend that the whole of the statues should be coated with pure limewash, as it well knows the public outcry which would be the result, but the Committee does venture to suggest to you the advisability of making some slight experiment at the present time with a view of arresting the continuous decay of the statues. What it would suggest, therefore, taking all the circumstances into consideration, is that some one or two of the less prominent statues be selected and that a beginning should be made with them. After but a little time it would be found that all look of freshness had disappeared from the surface of the stone thus treated, and then a few more might be done as opportunity offered. Or, as the Committee thinks, the method recommended would by the time a scaffolding is again erected have proved so obviously right that *then* the whole of the figures, and even the rest of the stonework, might be done. The Committee would suggest that a little yellow colouring matter should be put into the limewash.

By way of modern precedent the Committee would point to the front of Exeter Guildhall, which was treated in this way under the Society's advice about three years ago. At the present time (notwithstanding the storm of criticism which followed) there seems to remain no evidence or memory of what was done. The stonework is perhaps a degree lighter in tone and it is now protected from the weather.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

24th July, 1903.

In reply, the Chapter Clerk asked the Society if it could give any information as to the standing capacity

of any wash or spray when used upon time-worn stone. The Committee gave what information it could, but we believe that nothing has been done to the statues with a view to protecting their surfaces from decay.

Whaplode Church, Spalding, Lincolnshire.

This church—one of the famous Lincolnshire churches—which was visited at the request of the Vicar, is a large and magnificent building consisting of chancel, nave, north and south aisles, north and south transepts, and a lofty and imposing tower.

The chancel, which is small in comparison with the rest of the building, is modern, having been built in 1818. It retains portions of earlier work and traces of a north aisle.

The chancel arch is the original Norman one, beautifully moulded on both faces and ornamented on its west face.

With the exception of a slight crack on the faces of the north and south piers near the floor level, it is in excellent condition.

The north transept has been considerably altered, probably when the chancel was rebuilt. A portion is walled off to form the village schoolroom. The north window is mutilated by the insertion of a brick chimney to form a flue for a fireplace beneath it, which cuts through the top of the arch and continues up above the gable. A large square-headed window has also been inserted, and an arched opening which formerly gave

access to the chancel aisle has been built up, and a window formed in the arch.

The south transept forms the base of the tower and has a beautiful pointed arch filled in with masonry.

The lower portion of the tower, up to the belfry, is built in three stages, beautifully arcaded and somewhat earlier in date than the belfry stage, which is of pure Early English work. There are five bells, restored to the tower in 1718. The walls are strong and well built.

The nave arcade consists of seven bays, of which the easternmost four are of Norman work, and the westernmost three, Transitional.

The north clerestory retains its Norman and Transitional windows, but with the exception of two of them they have been widened by cutting away the splay of the jambs. The easternmost window has been built up and a square headed-window inserted close to the east wall.

The south clerestory has had its Norman windows removed and two-light Perpendicular windows substituted, probably when the present aisles were built.

The nave roof is of Perpendicular date, richly constructed, but in a most dilapidated condition. The greater portion of its enrichments have perished.

The north aisle is of late Perpendicular work, its west window being blocked up, and a wood lintel takes the place of the outer order of the arch of the easternmost window. Nearly the whole of the original mullions and tracery have been replaced by modern mullions, carried up to the underside of the arches.

The south aisle is also of late Perpendicular work and the windows have been treated in a similar manner.

The south doorway is of fine Transitional work, with a beautiful moulded pointed arch, enclosed by a modern porch.

Although the condition of the building, with the exception of the roofs of the nave, aisles, north transept and tower, is generally sound, there is urgent need that the necessary repairs should be undertaken without delay.

The whole building has sunk into the soft soil in a most wonderful way. It is recorded that about fifty years ago two feet six inches of soil were excavated from the surface inside the building. The seven-inch step at the junction of the Norman and Transition work shews that a considerable settlement occurred in the short interval between the two periods. The general level of the ground at the present time is about two feet six inches higher than the floor of the church.

The Society's report fully explained the repairs needed but the Committee understands that nothing can be decided until after the next meeting of the rectors—the Governors of the Estates of the Foundation of Robert Johnson, Archdeacon of Leicester.

St. Oswald's Church, Widford, Oxfordshire.

The Committee has, in addition to having a report made as to the works necessary to put this building into structural repair, been assisting in raising the funds required for the purpose.

The church is a small disused building of fourteenth century date, of considerable architectural worth and great beauty, in the vicinity of Burford.

It is in urgent need of repairs and unless they are carried out without delay it must become a ruin.

It is estimated that the works which are essential can be done for £150 and of this sum £91 has been raised.

The Committee hopes that the balance will be forthcoming before it is too late, for the church is an unrestored building, and such buildings are, alas, becoming rare.

*The following is a list of Buildings which have come before the
Society during the Year :—*

- | | |
|--|--|
| Alphamstone Church, Essex. | Clevedon Church, Somerset. |
| Ayr, N.B., Ancient Bridge. | Coln St. Denis Church, Gloucestershire. |
| Bampton Grammar School, Oxon. | Corbridge-on-Tyne, Northumberland, Bridge. |
| Banbury, Oxon., Houses. | Culross Abbey, N.B. |
| Barnes Church, Surrey. | Cyprus, Antiquities of. |
| Barrington Court, Somerset. | Dale Church, Pembrokeshire. |
| Berwick-upon-Tweed Bridge. | Dean Prior Church, Devonshire. |
| Berwick-upon-Tweed, Town Walls. | Denton Church Tower, Lincolnshire. |
| Bishop's Waltham, Hants, The Old Palace. | Derby, All Saints' Church. |
| Bledington Church, Gloucestershire. | Desborough Church, Northants. |
| Bledlow Church, Bucks. | Downe Church, Kent. |
| Blythburgh Church, Suffolk. | Downton-on-the-Rock Church, Herefordshire. |
| Bosham Church, Sussex. | Dumbleton Church, Gloucestershire. |
| Bristol, Gloucestershire, Old Dutch House. | Dunstable Church, Beds. |
| Bromholme Priory, Bacton, Norfolk. | Dunstaffnage Castle, N.B. |
| Brookland Church, Kent. | Eashing Bridge, Surrey. |
| Buckland Church, Devonshire. | East Tilbury Church, Essex. |
| Burford, Oxon., Ancient House. | Ecclesall Church, Yorks. |
| Burford Priory, Oxon. | Eglwys Cummin Church, Carmarthenshire. |
| Burford, Oxon., The Tolsey. | Ellesmere Church Tower, Shropshire. |
| Burnham Church, Bucks., Porch. | Ellingham Church, Norfolk. |
| Canterbury Cathedral, Kent, The Central Tower. | Ely Cathedral, Cambs. |
| Cawston Church, Norfolk. | Eltham, Kent, Houses at. |
| Chichester Cathedral, Sussex, The Bell Tower. | Esher, Surrey, St. George's Church. |
| Chichester, Sussex, St. Martin's Church. | Evesham, Worcestershire, Ancient House, Bridge Street. |
| Chingford Old Church, Essex. | Exeter Cathedral, Devon. |
| Church Honeybourne Church, Worcestershire. | Exeter Guildhall, Devon. |
| Churchill Ch., Worcestershire. | Eynsford Church Tower, Kent. |
| Ciliau Aeron Ch., Cardiganshire. | Eynsford, Kent, Tudor Cottage. |

- Feckenham Church, Worcester-shire.
 Fotheringhay Church, Northants.
 Gileston Church, Glamorgan-shire.
 Gloucester City Wall.
 Grayne Church, Kent.
 Great Durnford Church, Wilts.
 Great Sturton Church, Lincs.
 Greenwich, Kent, Royal Naval College.
 Guildford, Surrey, St. Mary's Church.
 Guildford, Surrey, Crypt, Savings Bank.
 Hampton Church, Worcestershire.
 Harvington Church, Worcester-shire.
 Haughmond Abbey, Salop.
 Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, St. Mary's Church.
 Hayton Church, Yorks.
 Heath Chapel, Shropshire.
 Hemblington Church, Norfolk.
 Hereford Cathedral, The West Front.
 Hessett Church, Suffolk.
 Hever Castle, Kent.
 Hexham, Northumberland, The Manor Keep.
 Heysham, Lancs., St. Patrick's Chapel.
 Hitchin, Herts., Market, Bancroft.
 Holme-on-Spalding Moor Church, Yorks.
 Holywell, Flints., St. Winefride's Well.
 Hotham Church, Yorks.
 Howden Church, Yorks.
 Inglesham Church, Wilts.
 Iona Ruins, N.B.
 Kimberley Church, Norfolk.
 Kirkwall, Orkney, N.B., St. Magnus Cathedral.
 Lakenheath Church, Suffolk
 Lanteglos-by-Fowey Church, Cornwall.
 Leicester, St. Nicholas' Church.
 Lewes, Sussex, Anne of Cleves' House, Southover.
 Limpsfield Church, Surrey.
 Linlithgow Palace, N.B.
 Liscombe, Chapel of, near Milton, Dorset.
 Liverpool Churches.
 Livesey Old Hall, near Blackburn, Lancs.
 Llandeibie Church, Carmarthen shire.
 Llanellian Church, Denbighshire.
 Llanfihangel Abercowin Church, Carmarthenshire.
 Llanhowell Church, Pembrokeshire.
 Llanthony Priory, Monmouthshire, Ruins of.
 Llantwit Major Church, Glamorganshire.
 London, Aldermanbury, E.C., St. Mary's Church.
 London, Broad Street, Church of St. Peter le Poer.
 London, Clerkenwell, Crypt under the Priory Church of St. John.
 London, Clifford's Inn, E.C.
 London, Hackney, The Church Institute.
 London, Hammersmith, Bradmore House.
 London, Lombard Street, All Hallows' Church.
 London, St. Andrew Undershaft Church, Stowe Monument.
 London, Smithfield, Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less.
 London, Westminster Abbey, Chapel of the Pyx.
 Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Ancient Bridge.
 Lyndhurst, Hants., Old Verderers Hall.
 Lythe Church, Yorkshire.
 Maidstone, Kent, Bridge and Gate House.
 Malmesbury Abbey, Wilts.

- Marwood Church, Devonshire.
 Melferley Church, Shropshire.
 Michaelchurch Church, Herefordshire, Font.
 Moretonhampstead Church, Devonshire.
 Mortlake Church, Surrey.
 Muchelney Abbey, Somerset.
 Mugginton Church, Derbyshire.
 Nacton Church, Suffolk.
 New Shoreham Church, Sussex.
 North Clifton Church, nr. Newark, Notts.
 Norwich, Norfolk, St. Andrew's Church, Suckling Monument.
 Norwich, St. Peter Hungate Church.
 Norwich, Ancient Wall.
 Norwich, The Water Gate, Pull's Ferry.
 Nottingham Castle, Notts., The Gateway.
 Oldbury, Worcestershire, Manor House.
 Olney Church, Bucks.
 Onibury Church, Shropshire.
 Oxford, Martyrs' Memorial.
 Oxford, Merton College, Warden's House.
 Oxford, St. Ebbe's Church.
 Oxted Church, Surrey.
 Paisley Abbey, N.B.
 Pavia, Italy, Bridge at.
 Peterborough, Northants, The Town Hall.
 Plymouth, Devon, Houses, Durnford Street.
 Plympton Grammar School, Devonshire.
 Plymtree Church, Devonshire.
 Potter Heigham Church, Norfolk.
 Probus Church, Cornwall.
 Puddletown Church, Dorset.
 Radnage Church, Bucks.
 Repton Church, Derbyshire.
 Rheinfels, Germany, Ruins.
 Richmond Palace, Surrey.
 Rochester Castle, Kent.
 Rochester Cathedral, Kent.
 Rochester, Kent, Ancient Houses.
 Rye, Sussex, St. Augustine's Priory.
 St. Alban's Abbey, Herts., Wall Painting.
 St. Alban's, Herts., Hall Place.
 St. Austell, Cornwall, Bridge.
 St. Bees, Cumberland, Priory Church Tower.
 St. David's Cathedral, Pembroke-shire, The Chapels.
 Saintbury Church, Gloucestershire.
 Sall Church, Norfolk.
 Scremby Church, Lincs.
 Seaford, Sussex, Crypt, Church Street.
 Sherborne Abbey Church, Dorset.
 Sheriff Hutton Church, Yorks.
 Shobdon, Herefordshire, Norman Font.
 Shrewsbury Abbey Church, Shropshire.
 Souldern Church Tower, Oxon.
 Southampton, Ancient Prison, Bugle Street.
 Southampton, Mediæval Hall, Simnel Street.
 Speke Hall, Garston, Liverpool.
 Stoke-by-Nayland Church, Suffolk.
 Stoke-sub-Hamden Church, Somerset.
 Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, Houses, Henley Street.
 Sutton Courtenay Church, Berks.
 Sutton-on-Trent Church, Notts.
 Swardston Church, Norfolk.
 Swinton, Yorks., Ancient Remains.
 Syde Church, Gloucestershire.
 Tatsfield Church, Surrey.
 Tewkesbury Abbey, Gloucestershire.
 Thornham Church, Yorks.
 Tideswell Church, Derbyshire.
 Tintern Abbey, Monmouthshire

Todwick Church, Yorks.
Toynnton Church, Lincs.
Trotton Church, Sussex.
Waltham Abbey Tower, Essex.
Warwick, Ancient House, Mill
Street.
Watlington, Oxon., Old Town Hall.
Wells Cathedral, Somerset,
Statues.
West Dean Church, Sussex, Monu-
ment in.
West Lynn Church, Norfolk.

Whaplode Church, Lincs.
Widford Church, Oxon.
Winchelsea Church, Sussex.
Winchester, Hants., Master's
House, St. Cross Hospital.
Winterton Church, Lincs.
Withycombe Church, Somerset.
Worcester, Houses at.
Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
Wroughton Church Tower, Wilts.
York, Jacob's Well Inn.
York Minster Glass.

REPORT OF GENERAL MEETING.

THE General Meeting of the Society was held on Friday, June 10th, 1904, in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, W., by the kind permission of that Society, to whom the Committee desires to express its sincere thanks.

The chair was taken by the Hon. Percy Wyndham.

The Chairman, in proposing that the Report be taken as read and adopted, said it was rather interesting to contrast the work carried on by the Society at the present time with what it was in its earlier days. In those early days, the greater part of their work consisted of opposition ; they were always finding fault with people and endeavouring to put them in the right way. But now they had people constantly coming to them asking for advice and assistance as to how they could best repair their buildings, instead of restoring them. It would be a great point gained if they could only get into people's minds the fact that the more excellent and the least costly way was to repair a building. Sometimes people were inclined to blame the architects, but an architect was a very busy man, and he had to live by his profession, and, therefore, people had no right to expect economy from an architect in dealing with these

matters. In support of his argument, Mr. Wyndham mentioned the case of a tower in Wiltshire, which cost only about half as much to repair as it would have cost to rebuild it. He also referred to a case of a large family mansion in Wiltshire, which had been in the possession of a family for nearly three centuries, who finally had to give it up, simply because the architect said the place would have to be rebuilt, and they were not in a position to pay for it. The place then fell into the hands of a gentleman who took the advice of the Society upon it, and it was repaired at less than half the cost of the former estimate. Continuing, the Chairman said we lived in days when most people's incomes were decreasing, and if people could only be made to understand that the best way of preserving the historic interest of a building was the least costly way, more of them would join the Society and follow its precepts.

Only the other day he heard, on very good authority, of a proposal to restore Fotheringhay Church, a church that was interesting owing to its connection with the historic Mary Queen of Scots, at a cost of £7,000, and a gentleman of authority, an architect, was willing to stake his professional reputation that the church might be repaired and saved for all time at a cost of £2,000.

In conclusion, he urged upon the members the necessity of inducing their friends to join the Society, in order that they might be enabled to carry on their work more successfully.

Mr. Herbert M. Ellis seconded the proposal, and referred to the threatened demolition of Whitgift

Hospital, Croydon—a building of the greatest value, and one which, he urged, every effort should be made to preserve.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. Holman Hunt then read the following paper.

SOME REFLECTIONS UPON THE WORK
UNDERTAKEN BY THE SOCIETY
FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT
BUILDINGS.

THOSE who were personal friends of William Morris and also those who know him only by fame will justly associate this Society with him as its “founder.”

Years before it was established there was sore need of it, but until the stalwart reformer of artistic anarchy in ornamental design, invited support to arrest the evil, no individual could hope to stay the destruction which false taste and jobbery were effecting throughout the empire. It must be understood that the greatest destroyers of artistic beauty and architectural history were not their declared enemies; but were those who stood up, self-appointed or otherwise, to exercise power in the name of order and improvement; in fact the greatest destroyers professed themselves to be the most unpromising admirers of our national architecture. They were in short the resurrectionists of Gothic in what was called the “correct period.” Whatever their inspiration the ravagers of historic monuments were so much of one accord and so numerous that men who deplored

the mischief done by them were unable, divided and alone, to induce the general public to listen to any remonstrance.

From the beginning this Society has worked to counteract the passion to demolition of things of beauty, and the phalanx it forms cannot be ignored, as was the unsupported individual who before its foundation ventured to protest. It is true that the Society has too often failed in its remonstrances, frequently, indeed, it has been prevented from rescuing an object of historic interest or beauty, and thus many a precious relic of antiquity has disappeared. At times the Society has had to yield to evidence that the reasonable conveniences of modern life were incompatible with the retention of some unreplaceable world treasure and to be satisfied that its cause has been represented as best it could be, and that the protest remains on record as a caution against future wanton attempts at despoliation; while yet liberal regard shewn for opponents' arguments has not lessened the weight of its influence. Without doubt in any private attempt to approach the people in whose hands the casting vote as to some proposed desecration rests, it is disheartening to witness their indifference to the question of beauty; for they glibly maintain that the substitution of the new for the old is all a matter of taste. To develop a suggestion made by Socrates, this would mean that children who preferred sweetmeats to wholesome food for nourishment could judge as well as their physician. In questions of business in which there is dispute it is not argued that the opinion of the inexperienced is as good as that of the profound, or in

questions of judicial moment, men are not so foolish as to argue that the criminal at the bar has as much right to his opinion as has the judge who has been appointed for his wisdom to decide the law. In such matters men bow to the view of the learned arbiter. The pretension of the ignorant that their judgment is as good as that of another, is seen to be preposterous in cases where the wear and tear of life has given sense to the importance of the business under consideration; but in the more recondite problems of taste they altogether put aside expostulation with the remark, "Fanciful considerations have no weight with us. We regard matters in an utilitarian light." Whereas the laws of Beauty are as eternal as the heavens and lie behind the passing clouds. Beauty is based on fitness, which is utility, and this sense of fitness or utility, obeyed by the Greeks as ancient law, stands their country in the best stead to this day, for it is this spirit which has made Greece now live again. The same may truly be said about Italy. The art it created only a few hundred years ago has in our eyes restored the country to re-existence. What could have re-animated the dry bones of either country but the precious seed of art and work which is still fructifying throughout the world.

Among the few I have met who have independently grieved at the ruin wrought by self-satisfied ignorance I will cite the humble example of the verger of an ancient church in Devonshire, which I visited a few years since. The church bore evidence of having once been amply endowed and richly furnished. Perhaps its first de-

spoilers had been ardent Protestants offended by the association of ornament with sacerdotal deceit and tyranny. The whole edifice had been damaged and ransacked to a deplorable extent. Brasses had been torn out of their settings, monuments broken and others carried away, windows had lost their glass and all that could be said in evidence of the repentance of more tranquil times, was that broken objects at hand had been restored to their places and the building had been made *tidy* and respectable. The verger led me about sympathising with me as he showed me the re-arranged ruin. His father had been verger before him and thus his reminiscences extended over a long period. He remembered that when a boy he found the beautiful reredos had been removed from its place and planted at the entrance of the church with hooks and other metal fittings to serve as an accommodation for hats, cloaks, pattens and umbrellas, and he told of the discovery under the whitewash, of a precious wall painting which the churchwardens and parson had ordered to be immediately destroyed, not so much from dread of idolatry as from a desire to see all the walls nicely clean and uniformly white. When my guide had shown me all his much revered but sadly cicatrised charge he said "One has heard much of the ruin caused by the Puritans; but believe me that was light in comparison to the wreckage that has been occasioned by churchwardens and ignorant parsons."

These words enshrine a lesson, "Save me from my friends," which the protectors of ancient buildings must often hear them say.

It was William Morris' energy and character which enabled this Society to struggle with all the trials and difficulties of its foundation and to obtain respect for the object we have at heart. He brought his personality to bear and I venture to think that few men do much towards reform without taxing the strength within them, which is the fruit of individual intuition. I feel that I should not be deterred from putting before you a personal observation which from my point of view should be a spur to our purpose. No reflective person would pretend to put his hand out to stay the scythe of time. "One generation passeth away and another cometh." Each brings its particular gift and leaves it as an inheritance for its successor. Those whom we do war with are those who would wipe away traces of these gifts when they do not happen to suit their selfishness or the vanity of the time. This is not the way of what, if you will have patience with the phrase, I will call "Eternal Providence." For although it is truly said of Nature that from

"Scarped cliff and quarried stone, she cries

A thousand types are gone—I care for nothing—all shall go."

It must be noted that the scarped cliff and quarried stone form a protection to ancient types of creation and that the presiding Spirit cares that these types should be preserved for the edification of final intelligence. The forms even of lichen and fern have with more advanced vegetation been perfectly fossilised and so they have been stored up for us. The shapes of zoophytes, of crustaceous fish and reptiles have in their several developments been brought to our eyes, and

we are taught even at the earliest stages that the first care of the builder up of life was the achievement of embodying a new power; and with this object attained, the artistic principle was brought to operate in embellishing plain surfaces and in the beautification of the form itself. When no farther power of beauty was possible on that branch of creation, we are shewn that invention commenced again at the trunk and proceeded on a new branch always beginning with no care for beauty or grace but arriving gradually at the utmost perfection possible on this higher line, and this process went on in different forms of animal life, until perfection had been secured to each of these and the world was ready for the steps leading from the quadruped through all approximations of immature experiments and ugliness to "the beauty of the World, the paragon of animals," in whom is collected together all the profitable qualities of lower creation with growing intelligence, which with other wonders, achieves the intercommunication of ideas not only with contemporaries, but also with his fellows in the most distant ages. What has been appropriately designated "the vestiges of creation" must be of special value to us in shewing that striving after beauty is the ultimate aim of design in the universe.

We must not, either, pass over proofs of the manner in which early man took up the lesson of care, that what he had observed and done, should not be effaced. The preservation of flint implements in drifts, may be due only to the same principle which transmitted the dimples

caused by the pattering of rain on the sand, the foot-prints of birds and of man upon the seashore: but the drawings traced by precursors of modern Royal Academicians, upon horns and bones, at once mark man's desire to hand on his observation to his successors. These artists are legators of the work, showing us what they loved best; and were most proud to have acquired, and when in due time these works were placed in temples and treasure houses, rifled or ruined in turn, a heavenly protection took them under its care, and by the wafting of desert sands over man's first carvings of ivory and wood, the tools he used, and the pottery and metal work he made, preserved them for the enlightenment of ages to come. The Heavens with their handmaiden nature covering ancient edifices so tenderly with excessive lappings of dust that the excavators of our day are sure to decipher the indications made by these strata, and tell us to what millennium or even century such deposit belongs. Beyond this, tufa and scoria cover whole cities, preserving their date of civilisation, the mystery of which we could otherwise only conjure up in intangible dreams. We should not complete the list of wonderful preservations without considering the fact that barbarians who cast away papyrus and parchment records as rubbish, were in fact consigning them to the everlasting Watchman who set his elements to keep these from decay and rapacious vermin, for the eyes of men of these later days.

Thus the Heavens have proved themselves to be the preserver of primitive history and ancient beauty, in

short, protectors of ancient structures and it is their example that our Society is bound to follow, the more now that selfishness and contending interests are so much tempted to ravage and spoil the works of the past.

Shall we reject the dumb admonition?

Will anyone turn a deaf ear to "these sermons in stone," which have so marvellously come down to us?

We are now at one of those crises in the world's history when, to use my foregoing symbol of the tree of life, we have to begin again at the main trunk, and during the crisis we must be patient, although not hopeless, at the reversion to ugliness. For it is impossible now to resist evidence which besets us at every turn all over the globe, that we are confronted with a complete negation of reverence for beauty. It is a seeming paradox to note the barbarous fact, when never previously in history was there so much open profession of care for art. Schools are multiplied in this country, in the colonies and throughout the civilised world to teach the practice of imitative and decorative art. How can these two opposite facts be reconciled? We can only hope that the art education will be the antidote of the rude sway of ugliness.

Our revered friend Ruskin was running a tilt against windmills when he denounced railways as an intolerable abomination. We cannot protest against the introduction of armoured steamships, resembling elongated coal-scuttles, in the place of the old white winged men of war, that with serene dignity breasted the ocean in our fathers' time.

It would be futile for us to bemoan the hideousness of motor cars, which are simply rectangular boxes on wheels, and still worse traction engines. We may abhor both, but they have come to stay and we should make the best of them although we deplore the exchange of these for carriages drawn by beautiful horses, that used to make our roads a delight to our eyes. What we have to deplore is that the monstrous innovations are thrust upon us without shame, rather indeed with pride in their ugliness. The fault is, in truth, with artists and connoisseurs, those among us who practise our hands without exercising our minds; who applaud ignorance, idleness and absence of design under the fine names of Impressionism and Modernity, and who encourage our students to applaud the vulgarist Continental art in sculpture and painting that screams aloud to attract the eye.

Until we get rid of vulgar ideals we cannot do what any other age would have done, namely, set ornamentalists to work to decorate the surfaces and to make graceful the forms of these new intrusions. All the relics of antiquity that have been preserved to us teach the lesson of ever advancing life, both in power and in beauty, and we must hope to make this lesson profitable to our generation at the peril of loss of respect from posterity; we must see that the new power be tempered and fashioned in such way as to become a creation, not only of higher potency, but also of correspondingly higher glory than any yet enjoyed by past ages.

I appeal most urgently therefore to the public for:

support of this admirable Institution, and I hope that its object will be so fully appreciated that all over the world similar societies will be formed to preserve both that which is historic and that which marks a sense of beauty as it has appeared in successive generations. And that persons of affluence will give liberally of their wealth to this and Exploration Societies now working in the same spirit in Crete, Egypt and in Syria.

Mr. Somers Clarke, F.S.A., proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and said there were a few matters connected with the repair of the monuments of Christian and Saracenic Art in Egypt, which might be of interest to the members of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and which had come under his notice during this winter. The two most important of these monuments were the Red and the White Monasteries, near Sohag.

The monastic church of the White Monastery retains its plan very completely. At the eastern end the three apses opening east, north and south, with a part of the church immediately west of them, are still in use, but in a condition of deplorable dilapidation.

The walls of the apses are adorned with two ranges of columns, the architraves resting on these have fallen to ruin, and far back in the history of the building were supported by brick walls which almost enclose the columns. Paintings and inscriptions of interest are to be seen on these walls and doubtless others are to be found on the hidden walls. Some of the inscriptions visible

refer to repairs executed by certain archimandrites about 1250 A.D., others 1279, whilst it is recorded that on the vault of the eastern or chief apse Archdeacon Shenuti had the painting done there in 1124.

This end of the building is now threatened by the fact that the north wall, which encloses the church and is incorporated with it, has sunk inwards and overhangs its base most alarmingly. A little movement and it would overwhelm what is not only a structure of extreme archæological interest but one which is also a very fine piece of architectural design, and is, with the exception of the neighbouring monastery—the Red—unique in Egypt.

Seeing the deplorable condition of these two most interesting structures and that, like many of our large churches in the eastern counties, the population has passed away from them, the attention of Lord Cromer was called to the value of the buildings, and a hope expressed that by some means funds could be made available to put these structures in substantial repair.

Immediately his attention was drawn to the perilous condition of the two monasteries, Lord Cromer put himself in communication with the Patriarch. A survey of the buildings was made and by this time an estimate of the cost for the very necessary repairs must have been sent in.

In his Report for last year Lord Cromer refers to this matter.

EGYPT No. 1 (1904).

Reports by His Majesty's Agent and Consul General on Egypt and the Soudan, 1903, p. 68.

"Preservation of Arab Monuments."

"Out of some £E.2,000 set apart for the purpose of repairing Coptic monuments, £E.856 has been expended up to the end of 1903. To this amount the Coptic Patriarch added £E.395 during the years 1902-1903.

"There is probably no community in Egypt which has gained more than the Copts from the British occupation. It is notorious that many Copts have amassed large fortunes. It would be a graceful act on the part of some of these gentlemen if they would devote some very small portion of their newly-acquired wealth to the preservation of the very interesting early Christian monuments in this country. My special attention has been directed by a competent authority to the desirability of putting the celebrated churches in the neighbourhood of Sohag (Deir el Abiad and Deir el Ahmar) into a state of repair. I venture to express a hope that funds will be forthcoming which will enable this work to be undertaken."

Unfortunately, the Coptic community does not respond. It continues, and it is to be feared will continue, to keep its money in its own hands, so long as the expenditure of it passes through a Mohammedan channel: for such is, in fact, the *Comité de Conservation des Monuments Arabes*, which, as its name clearly shews, was instituted for the purpose of dealing with the mosques and kindred buildings of Saracenic Art.

Such an arrangement as now exists would not work in this country, still less is it likely to work well in Egypt.

Passing from Christian antiquities to Saracenic, the most important monument now in the hands of the *Comité* is the Mosque of Sultan Hassan.

It is to be observed, however, not without regret, that the *Comité* has carried out one piece of "restoration" which was certainly quite unnecessary.

Immediately beside the octagonal basin for ablutions standing in the middle of the court stood another and smaller one, differing somewhat in its architectural treatment, as it was set up for the use of the Hanafees, a section of the Mohammedans requiring running water for the purposes of religious ablutions.

The group of fountains, giving scale and picturesqueness to the vast courtyard and beloved by artists, has been interfered with.

The large fountain has been retained. The small one has been carried off and set up in the courtyard of the mosque El Merdâny.

Except that the large basin stood in the middle of the courtyard and the other did not, the reason for moving the small fountain is not obvious. On the historic side the change cannot be defended, for, although the smaller fountain may not be of the same date as the mosque, the mosque provided from the first for the Hanafees. A school for this section is included in the building.

It is to be feared that the idea of making the place neat and smart is still somewhat present to the minds of those who control the work.

It is much to be hoped that the pavement of the courtyard, broken about though it be, may be retained.

Mr. Clarke thought it unnecessary to mention by name sundry mosques, in addition to that of Sultan Hassan, which are being repaired.

They are structures of less monumental dignity, but not less of historic or artistic interest. He wished to congratulate Herz Bey, the architect to the *Comité*, upon the scrupulous care with which the works were being carried out. Incrustations of whitewash were carefully removed from the enriched plaster work and from the windows, which have in sundry cases been rendered opaque by reason of the many coats they have received. New stone work is dated, as is also new wood or metal work.

Mr. Emery Walker formally seconded the vote of thanks, which was agreed to.

Mr. Wilfrid S. Blunt, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said Mr. Wyndham was one of the very oldest members, if not one of the founders, of the Society, and he was certainly one of those who had done most to further the interests of the Society and to impress its ideas upon the world in general. He, the speaker, believed there was nothing more important at the present moment than to impress upon those who had charge of ancient buildings the truth that the best way of keeping them in good repair was not always the most expensive way, but rather the most economical. Looking back at all the unfortunate things that had been done in the way of restoration during the last half century one could not fail to recognise that one of our great misfortunes had been that agricultural England

and those who had charge of the Church property had been a great deal too rich, and it was just their riches which tempted them to do that which had really been a misfortune to the ancient buildings. We were now on the wave of a reaction and the country was no longer as rich as it had been, especially in the agricultural districts, and, therefore, he thought the Society was more likely to be listened to now than it would have been some years ago. He had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Mr. J. R. Yorke, in seconding the vote of thanks, said he did so with the very greatest pleasure, not only because Mr. Wyndham was one of his oldest friends, but also because he was indirectly the cause of his (the speaker's) joining the Society. It had been said that in this country ugliness was enshrined in our churches and enthroned in our palaces and domesticated in our houses. That was a somewhat sweeping statement, which he hoped others more learned in art than himself would be able to deny. In his opinion the whole duty of man might be summed up in two sentences, the first was to do as much good as you could and the second to avoid doing as much mischief as you could. At any rate, if they had not done any good he thought the Society was a valuable agent in preventing people doing mischief, because it had helped to preserve what remained of the art of more fortunate epochs. He had much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks.

The Chairman, in responding, said he was pleased to be able to congratulate the Society on the position it had attained. It was not only holding its own, but it was on the ascending grade, for undoubtedly the attitude of the public was less frankly hostile than it had been in days gone by.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1903.

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1902, as per last statement	59 3 9	By Payments during the year 1903 :—	
„ Receipts during the year 1903 :—		Messrs. Bowley & Son for repairs to west windows of the nave and south aisle of Inglesham Church, Wilts.	6 12 6
Donations -	4 4 0	„ Cash at the London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1903 -	57 5 3
Amount received for the repair of Widford Church, Oxfordshire -	10 0		
	<u>4 14 0</u>		
	<u>£63 17 9</u>		<u>£63 17 9</u>

27th April, 1904.

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

JOHN J. AUSTIN, Auditor.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1903.

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RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Amount on Deposit at the London City and Midland Bank, as per last statement	65 0 0	By Amount on Deposit Account at the London City and Midland Bank	66 7 9
„ Interest on Deposit	1 7 9		
	<u>£66 7 9</u>		<u>£66 7 9</u>

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27th April, 1904.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

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Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1903.

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RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1902, as per last statement	18 7 7	By Payments during the year 1903:—	
„ Receipts during the year 1903:—		Printing	28 4 1
Annual Subscriptions	288 8 2	Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Expenses	27 1 4
Donations	6 17 3	Members' Travelling Expenses	13 8 10
Received for Travelling Expenses in visiting Buildings, and Sale of Reports	4 12 6	Secretary's Salary	120 0 0
		Clerk's Salary	78 0 0
		Rent of Office	21 0 0
	299 17 11		287 14 3
		„ Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1903	26 2 2
		„ Cash at Office	4 9 1
			30 11 3
			£318 5 6

27th April, 190

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct.

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Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following Members.—

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 Mary, Countess of Galloway.
 J. L. Gerôme.
 Rev. Canon Lester.
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Printed by the WOMEN'S PRINTING SOCIETY, LIMITED
66 and 68, Whitcomb Street, W.C

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.
JUNE 1905.

“DO NOT LET US TALK THEN
OF RESTORATION : THE THING
IS A LIE FROM BEGINNING TO
END.”—JOHN RUSKIN.

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ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Committee has much pleasure in laying before the members of the Society the following notes upon some of the cases which have received its attention during the past year. The buildings referred to, as will be seen from the list given in this report, are only a small proportion of the total number of cases which come before the Committee, but it is felt that they give a good idea of the importance of the work carried on by the Society, and of the amount of labour which this work involves.

Old Bridge, Ayr, N.B.

The "Auld Brig O'Ayr" is so well known that the Committee feels there is no need to describe it. The sum of £12,000 was bequeathed to the Town Council of Ayr some time ago, subject to a life interest which has now expired, for the purpose of rebuilding the bridge.

The Society has learnt that it is the intention of the Town Council to pull down and rebuild the bridge, and the Committee has sent a letter strongly protesting against this course, and suggesting a method by which the bridge might be strengthened and preserved.

Bacton Church Tower, Herefordshire.

The Rector appealed to the Society for a report upon his Church Tower. The building had been condemned

by an architect who said it must be rebuilt, but the Rector was anxious to preserve it, if possible.

A professional member, who has had exceptional practical experience in the repair of such buildings, surveyed the tower on behalf of the Society, and, as a result of his inspection, a report was sent to the Rector, in which it was shewn that with proper care the tower could be made structurally sound.

The tower, of early thirteenth century date, is built of sandstone, in thin courses. The walls at the ground floor are 4ft. 3in. in thickness reducing to 3ft. 6in. at the belfry stage. The interior dimensions at the ground floor are 11ft. 9in. by 10ft. 6in. The total height from the ground to the top of the parapet is 37ft.

An early settlement appears to have occurred and produced serious cracks in the fabric, and the ivy which is growing thickly on the south and west faces, has helped to displace the outer surface to a great extent, and allowed the wet to penetrate into the walls. The foundations are loose, and a portion at the centre of the south side is badly displaced.

A small square-headed window occurs on the south and west faces on the ground floor, over which large cracks exist on the outer surface of the walls. Another small opening occurs on the west face at the first floor level, through which the crack extends and continues up to the underside of the belfry window. A large crack exists on the south side, for the full height of the tower, and the outer surface of the wall is badly displaced.

The outer surface of the east and north walls is in fairly good condition.

A two-light window of late date has been inserted on each face of the tower at the belfry level.

The roof is of pyramid form, and covered with stone slates, with a lead gutter, formed at the back of the parapet. The roof timbers are of oak, but the slates are badly displaced and allow of the wet getting through.

The bell frame is of oak and contains two bells, one of which is dated 1710. It originally contained three bells. The frame and the fittings of the bells are in very bad repair. The three beams supporting the bell frame rest on the north and south walls. The ends of the beams are badly decayed and are propped from the first floor in a temporary manner.

The first floor is supported by a beam resting on the north and south walls, under which two beams have been inserted, resting on the east and west walls.

The condition of the fabric is not so serious as might be anticipated from the outward appearance of the south and west sides, and although, of course, great care would have to be taken in carrying out the repair of the tower, there is no question as to its possibility.

The Rector, in thanking the Society for the report, stated that directly he can see his way to making a fair start he will communicate with the Society.

Bampton Grammar School, Oxon.

This building, which is a very good example of the domestic architecture of the neighbourhood, was used

as a Grammar School until about four years ago, and the old master continued to live in it until his death, two years since.

The Society's attention was called to its dilapidated condition, and therefore the building was surveyed. A report was received to the effect that the building was fast falling into a ruinous state; a part of the roof had fallen into one of the principal ground floor rooms carrying a piece of wall with it, the windows were boarded up, and damp was appearing all through the house and attacking the panelling.

The Committee was informed that the building was in the hands of the Charity Commissioners, but it was thought that body had handed it over to the Education Department. It was reported that the latter body wished to sell the building and use the proceeds, as well as an endowment of about £30 per annum, for founding scholarships. But, on the other hand, the local people wanted to use it for a parish club room, etc., and would have spent the necessary money for keeping the structure in repair, but were afraid that the Commissioners would object, or at any rate eventually take away the house from parish use.

The Committee decided to address the Commissioners upon the subject, and in its letter it urged that the building was of considerable value and suitable for use as a parish room.

However, the Committee was informed that the building had been transferred to the Board of Education, and a similar letter was addressed to the Board. A

very satisfactory reply was received to the effect that an officer of the Board had held a conference in Bampton with the Vicar and Churchwardens, representatives of the Parish Council, and of the Local Education Authority, at which it was decided that the repair of the old school building should be proceeded with at once, without waiting for the establishment of a scheme for the future regulation of the Charity, and that a small local Committee, comprising the Vicar and Churchwardens and representatives of the Parish Council, should be formed to carry out the work, which would probably be completed in a few weeks after the date of the Board's letter.

The following extract from the letter will interest the members of the Society, as it is evidence that the Educational Authority of the country at least appreciates the value of ancient buildings :

" It is much to be regretted that, owing to some uncertainty as to the Trusteeship of the School, the building was for a long time so entirely neglected that a certain amount of irreparable damage, such as the destruction of the old leaded windows, was allowed to be wantonly committed.

" The importance of preserving the building seems to be now generally recognised in the place, and the Board will do everything in their power to secure this end. There seems to be no strictly educational purpose for which it can now be utilised, but it is hoped that an effort may be made to secure it for some general parochial purpose."

Bosham Church, Sussex.

Owing to the generosity of a member of the Society,

who gave £50 for the purpose, the greater portion of the north wall of this building has been underpinned. The work, in the opinion of two competent architects, was greatly needed.

The underpinning was examined on behalf of the Society while the work was in progress, and as it was found to be satisfactory, and it is now completed, the Committee has forwarded the £50 to the Vicar.

The public does not as a rule care to give money for putting in new foundations, as there is nothing to see for the expenditure, but it is, of course, the most important form of repair.

Bradwell Church Tower, Lechlade, Oxon.

The Society visited and reported upon this building, and some of the works recommended by it have been carried out, but owing to lack of funds these had to be confined to the spire, leaving to some future time the necessary work of repairing the cracks in the wall of the Tower and the removal of the bells from the base of the spire to the old belfry level, where it is proposed to rehang them in a new oak frame.

The Tower consists of three stages. The two lower stages appear to have been built about the end of the twelfth century and the upper stage and the spire in the thirteenth century. The latter is octagonal, lofty and a beautiful piece of work.

On repairing the spire it was found to be badly shaken throughout, especially near the top, where the beds and

joints were broken and pieces of the angle rolls broken off, which appears to have been caused by the swaying of the spire during the ringing of the bells.

The stone capping at the top of the spire is fixed with iron dowels on the top of a circular stone necking, which had split owing to the rusting of the iron. The iron standard of the weather vane is fixed through the centre of both and passes down into the top portion of the spire. The stone necking where split has been grouted together and a gunmetal band tightly fixed around the outside, and bedded in white lead. The top of the stone capping has been covered with lead.

The beds and joints of the masonry throughout have been well raked out, both on the outside and the inside faces, and repointed in a solid manner with blue lias lime and coarse sharp sand from the Thames. Several stones near the base of the spire, which were found to be loose and displaced, have been carefully refixed. Where the stones were broken by the movement they have been carefully repaired.

The spire lights were next taken in hand. The one on the north side was badly displaced and in a dangerous condition. The stone gable had to be taken down and refixed. The immediate cause was due to an iron tie rod which was tightly built into the jambs and mullion at the springing of the head. This corroded and burst the stones into which it was fixed, causing the gable to pitch forward. The iron ties have been removed in the case of each light, and where necessary copper dowels and cramps used to refix the stones.

The spire light on the west side had to be partly refixed in a similar manner to the north one. The east and south lights were in a better condition.

Portions of the stone crosses on the gables of the spire lights were missing. The existing parts have been carefully repaired and refixed.

The octagonal stone pinnacles which occur at the angles of the tower have been carefully repaired and refixed in a solid manner.

Owing to the defective condition of the pointing of the upper portion of the tower the wet penetrated in places. The worst portions have been made good, and the string courses and sills of windows repointed.

A new lightning conductor has been provided and fixed in place of the old one, which was found to be of insufficient metal, and without a proper earth contact. The weather cock has been repaired and regilded and put in proper working order.

As stated above, owing to the lack of funds the necessary work of repair to the fabric of the tower, and the rehanging of the bells, could not be undertaken.

It is of the utmost importance to have it clearly understood that on no account must the bells be rung until the repair of the tower has been undertaken and the bells removed from their present dangerous position, and rehung on a new frame of English oak at the old belfry level, in accordance with the suggestions set forth in the Society's Report.

The cost of the work amounted to the sum of £175, and the Society gave a donation of £3 3s. towards this amount.

The Tolsey, Burford, Oxon.

Many members of the Society are interested in this building, and the Committee therefore gives the following extracts from a report made by a member after he had visited the building, during the progress of the works:

"I only succeeded in getting over to Burford yesterday. The work is practically complete. The old stone roofing slates have been relaid on new battens and torched under.

"Two new fireplaces have been put in on the first floor, with stone chimney shafts (harmless) and yellow pots.

"The first floor has been laid with new boarding.

"The ceiling of the main room on the first floor has been raised to the collar line and plastered; and two walls of the room are replastered, and the old plaster has been repaired elsewhere.

"Two old oak tie-beams have been cut away from the main room. The builder remarked that they 'don't care enough about antiquities to let them be a nuisance.' I don't see myself where the nuisance would come in—the beams were just above the old ceiling line.

"The two projecting oak windows on the first floor towards the street are entirely new, but do not look other than country made. They have a simple ovolo moulding outside. But I feel that in an old fashioned place like Burford this may be set down to the lingering of a tradition rather than a revival. I do not know, of course, whether there was a real need for removing the old windows wholesale.

"A rather beautiful date shield, 1688, from the Guild House, recently pulled down, has been put up on the south wall of the main room. This shield is of plaster, and is in excellent condition, though it used to be outside.

"Externally there is new roughcast of a traditional kind on the first floor towards the street. It seems to me highly probable that this was necessary.

"On the back wall of the back projection (fortunately the least ancient part of the building) the old stonework has been largely redressed.

"An oak shield carved with a lion (the town arms) and the date, 1904, has been put up between the gables on the front.

"My own verdict on the whole thing is 'Not S.P.A.B. work, but might easily have been very much worse.'"

The result is certainly unfortunate, as two members had previously given the custodians advice as to the treatment of the building, which evidently was not heeded.

The old windows needed repair, but neither the glass, the wood, nor the plaster need have been destroyed.

The Central Tower, Canterbury Cathedral.

In the last report the Committee stated that the Dean and Chapter had given permission for the Society to inspect the Bell Harry Tower from the scaffolding. Three members, who are architects, made the inspection on behalf of the Society, and they were accompanied by the architect to the Dean and Chapter.

A well-designed scaffolding had been erected, and it had been trussed in such a way as to clear the roof, and was kept quite independent of the Tower itself. This scaffolding gave great pleasure to the Society's representatives, as it has always held that in dealing with an ancient building there is no justification for taking putlogs into the walls, as many architects do.

In a long letter to the architect the Committee expressed its gratification that he had taken up the important question of how the decay of stone can be checked. It pointed out that it found lime slaked in boiling water, to some extent, gives back life to decayed stone, but that it considered its real and important function is one of protection.

There can be no doubt that the decay of stone in ancient buildings is of recent date, and that it is solely due to the products given off in the present large consumption of coal as fuel, but the Committee is convinced that these products of combustion, even in bad cases, take many years to eat through a good coat of lime, and during that period the stone which is covered by the lime is completely protected.

The Committee added, in its letter to the architect, its appreciation of the fact that he did not consider it either desirable or necessary to renew or replace ornamental features, and it expressed its agreement with him in thinking that where the ashlar is carrying weight it is absolutely necessary to renew defective stones which are so far gone as to make them unfit to carry weight. The Committee made a suggestion as to the use of blue lias lime and the treatment of the cavities caused by the removal of decayed stone.

A long correspondence on the use of limewash as a preservative took place in the *Times*, and the Committee mentioned its experience, and at the same time stated that, in the case of the Bell Harry Tower, owing to the expense of erecting a scaffolding on each occasion when

the lime needed renewal, the use of limewash was impracticable. However, a question has arisen whether limewash can be made permanent, and it has been suggested that this result can be obtained by the addition to the lime of Hydrate of Barium.

Carisbrooke Church, Isle of Wight.

In 1897 a scheme for adding a chancel to this building, which would have resulted in the destruction of the ancient chancel arch and the whole character of the east end, was proposed, but owing to strenuous local opposition, supported by the Society, the scheme was withdrawn.

A new Vicar having been appointed, he again brought the matter forward, and a proposal was made by him that a chancel should be built. The proposition was again strongly opposed locally and by the Society, and at a meeting of the inhabitants it was defeated by a considerable majority. The Vicar has since stated that, so far as he is concerned, the proposal is now definitely abandoned.

There is no doubt that the necessary accommodation can be provided by re-arranging the fittings, and therefore a chancel is not essential and would seriously interfere with the ancient building.

The matter was referred to in the report for 1898 (pages 14-16).

Cawston Church, Norfolk.

The Committee learnt that the Rector would be glad to

receive a report from the Society upon his Church and it was accordingly surveyed and a report sent to him.

The chief portions of the building requiring attention are the roofs of the nave and aisles.

The nave roof is a magnificent specimen of fifteenth century workmanship, being about 90ft. long, 24ft. wide, and 54ft. high from floor to apex. It consists of six principal bays, sub-divided by secondary principals, the western bay being considerably longer than the other bays, a feature which also occurs in the bays of the arcade. The whole roof is constructed with oak which has aged to a most delightful silver colour. The pitch is about 45° .

The cast lead on the outside is in poor condition, and patched in places, through which the wet penetrates. At the level of the wall plates, a deep cornice, with a cove, extends the whole length of the interior, on the north and south sides. The hammer beams to the principals are framed at the level of the cornice, the struts supporting them being received by oak posts, with moulded caps and bases, supported on stone corbels. Longitudinal wall braces of oak spring from the heads of posts to the underside of the cornice. There are two purlins on each side of the roof, framed into principals, and a ridge piece on which the rafters are supported. Beautifully carved bosses occur at the intersection of the purlins with the principals and again at the ridge. The ends of the hammer beams support angels, and seraphim enrich the cove of the cornice.

This roof is in need of immediate and most careful

repair. The north aisle roof appears to be contemporary with that of the nave, but the south aisle roof was constructed at a later period.

So far, the Committee has not learnt what decision the Rector has come to with regard to the treatment of the building, but it is to be hoped that the repair of the nave roof will not be long delayed.

Coln St. Denys Church Tower, Gloucestershire.

At the time of the issue of the last report, the Committee was in correspondence with the Rector with regard to the Society's recommendations concerning this building. This correspondence resulted in the Rector deciding to act in accordance with the Society's advice, and the tower has now been repaired and made structurally sound.

A description of the tower was given in the last report (pp. 21 and 22), and the following is an account of the works of repair which have been brought to a successful conclusion.

On the removal of the boarded floors against the north and south walls of the tower the ground was excavated for the inspection of the foundations. At a depth of 3ft. 6in. below the level of the floor a good gravel foundation was reached on which the tower is built. The north and south walls are 3ft. 6in. in thickness, and are composed of thin courses of hard stone, faced on the outside with a good thickness of ashlar masonry well bonded into the rubble work of the walls. The foundations of the walls were found to consist of

two courses of thin stones, about gin. wide, laid "herring-bone" fashion, without mortar, on the top of which courses of rough stone are built up to the level of the ground. In the case of the north wall the foundation was found to be in good preservation, with the exception of a portion on the inside, which had been undermined by a stone vault, formed close against the wall under the floor of the tower. The vault has been filled in and covered over with cement concrete, and the loose portion of the foundation removed and the wall underpinned with hard brick and cement mortar. On the outside of the wall the soil has been excavated down to the gravel foundation, and the surface of the walling carefully cleaned and about 12 inches of concrete laid against the face of the wall up to the level of the ground. The foundation of the staircase was found in excellent condition and of a similar nature to that of the walls. It has been protected on the outside faces with concrete. The fifteenth century buttresses, built against the east angles of the tower on the north and south sides, were found to be built upon a good foundation of very large stones. The ground has been excavated around them and concrete laid against the faces in a similar manner to the walls.

Having examined and made sound the foundations up to the ground level, the work of repair was proceeded with. The old Norman arch supporting the west wall of the tower was first taken in hand. The abutment on its north side up to the springing of the arch was found on examination to be sound and fairly upright. The abut-

ment on the south side is greatly weakened by the circular staircase, which is formed behind it. The staircase partly projects beyond the face of the tower, but unfortunately it cuts into the abutment to a great extent. It has been forced outwards by the thrust of the arch, the walls are badly bulged, and several cracks of long standing in the walls and stone steps showed the extent of the movement. The arch, which had originally been a semi-circle, is depressed into an elliptical form. Before proceeding with its repair, it was found necessary to support the arch by means of a temporary wood cradle fixed underneath the soffit and shored from the floor. On examination, the wall of the south abutment was found in a disintegrated condition behind the ashlar facing, and underneath the steps of the staircase. The loose portions were removed and the abutment strengthened by filling in with solid masonry at the back of the abutment and underneath the stone steps. The walls of the staircase where cracked have been strengthened and bonded into the solid portion of the tower. The old Norman arch was next repaired and strengthened. Owing to the movements which had taken place in the arch, the joints were found broken and hollow. They had been well cleaned out and grouted together in a solid manner. The wall over the arch up to the first floor level is faced with ashlar, which, owing to the settlement, was full of cracks and a dead weight on the arch. It has been repaired by the removal of the ashlar on the inside face of the wall in small portions, and the loose walling cleared out to

the back of the outside facing. The old ashlar was then rebbeded, and the centre portion of the wall renewed with concrete, well bonded into the back of the ashlar, by which means the wall has been thoroughly strengthened. Immediately above the ashlar work at the first floor level a horizontal brick lintel has been inserted in the thickness of the wall, forming a continuous band around the four walls of the tower, which, besides acting as a tie, helps to relieve the arches of some of the weight of the superstructure. The repair of the staircase was continued up piece by piece and the walls thoroughly bonded together with new stones where necessary. The broken steps were repaired and refixed on a new concrete foundation on the top of the stone vaulting underneath. The staircase finishes a little above the first floor level, and was formerly roofed over with a rubble stone vault with stone weathering on the outside. Owing to the movement in the staircase the vault had given way and displaced the stone weathering, which was covered with a temporary roof of stone slates. A new concrete roof has been formed over the staircase, and the old stone weathering carefully replaced and made weatherproof. The concrete roof has been formed to act as a bond to tie in the top of the staircase to the angle of the tower, and at the same time to support in a better manner than formerly the upper portion of the tower. An old iron tie rod from the outside of the staircase and through the north and south walls of the tower has been refixed in a more direct manner under the first floor level.

The east wall of the tower was next taken in hand. The old Norman abutments of the arch were found on examination to be in a sound condition, as well as the pointed arch, which appears to have been inserted in the thirteenth century in place of a Norman one. The wall immediately over the arch was badly bulged and cracked. On the removal of the plaster from the west face the wall was found to be built with small stones and in a very dilapidated condition. The old "springers" of the Norman arch were found in position at the back of the pointed arch. The loose walling was removed in small portions, and replaced with solid brickwork corbelled over the back of the pointed arch, and continued above the same up to the first floor level. By this means most of the weight of the superstructure is taken direct on to abutments and relieves the arch considerably. The south wall from the ground upwards has been strengthened by removing the loose walling to the back of the ashlar facing and rebuilding from the inside face with new stone-work and concrete, great care being taken to incorporate the new work with the old facing on the outside. Where necessary, new bonding stones have been inserted, and the beds and joints of the facing thoroughly cleaned out and repointed with mortar composed of blue-lime and sharp coarse river sand in the proportion of one part of lime to four parts of sand. Close against the south abutment of the arch occurs an old built-up priests' doorway of Norman date. It was evidently built up in the thirteenth century, when the existing lancet window close against it was inserted. A similar window occurs

in the north wall opposite, on each side of which are interesting memorial tablets. The north wall up to the springing of the window was found in a more solid condition, and had not to be wholly renewed on the inside. Above that level it had to be treated in a similar manner to the south wall. From the first floor level upwards to the underside of the pointed arches carrying the corbel course under the belfry floor, the four walls had to be wholly renewed on the inside to the back of the ashlar facing. Fortunately the ashlar facing has good bonders at frequent intervals around which the new work has been well bonded. All the old rubble facing possible was re-used on the inside of the walls, and where necessary new walling stone from a local quarry on the Glebe farm was used. The new facing stone for the exterior bonders was kindly given by Lord Eldon from his Yanworth quarry, which appears to be of a similar nature to the stone of which the Church is built. Immediately below the springing of the interior upper arches a second horizontal lintel of brickwork was inserted in the thickness of the walls around the tower, which forms a continuous bond and receives the thrust of the arches, which was formerly thrown on the angles of the tower with the most serious results. The interior angles were built with ashlar quoins, which, owing to the concentrated weight and thrust, were completely crushed and in a critical condition. The four walls are now thoroughly bonded together in such a manner as to distribute the weight of the belfry over the whole surface of the tower, and there should be no cause for

any future trouble owing to the unusual construction of the upper portion of the tower.

The upper arches have been carefully rebedded where necessary, and the new brickwork behind the same well bonded into the ashlar facing of the outside. It is of interest to mention that the corbel course above the arches had originally been made and used as an exterior corbelling. Evidence of this is to be seen in the angle corbels, which have a double corbel worked out of one stone, for an exterior angle. The stone weathering on the top of the tower, supporting the belfry, appears to have been added as a finish to the walls in the twelfth century. It had become very much displaced and patched with new portions of plain stone. It was removed in small sections, and the wall filled in solid underneath, on the top of which the old weathering has been carefully rebedded, and all made sound and weatherproof.

The belfry is of fifteenth century date. Where the wall was cut away on the inside for the first and second bells to swing, it has been made good, and the bells rehung to swing clear of the walls. The north window was blocked up with the clock face, which was fixed on the face of the window, and the mullion removed to allow room for the gearing. The clock has now been fixed on the wall at the west side of the window, and the mullion and other portions of the window replaced. The centre portion of the wall under the window had settled owing to the arch underneath giving way. It has been carefully removed and refixed in its original

position and made thoroughly sound. The exterior facing of the belfry has been repaired and carefully repointed. The roof of the belfry is covered with cast lead, which in places had cracked and allowed the wet to penetrate. It has been carefully repaired, and a proper lead flashing fixed to cover the lead where it turns up against the back of the parapet. The lead heads and down pipes which take the water off the roof have been carefully repaired and refixed. A flagstaff has been provided and fixed at the north-west angle of the tower.

The set of five bells has been thoroughly overhauled and fitted with new wheels, etc., and arranged to be rung from the first floor in place of the ground floor as formerly. The bell frame has been repaired and strengthened with long bolts fixed through the depth of the frame, and secured to the beams underneath. Two new additional oak beams have been added to carry the frame. An elaborate system of oak cradling has been fixed under the beams about midway between the first floor and the belfry. It is bolted through the walls and supported on oak posts and struts resting on oak bearers at the first floor level. From the top cradling oak braces are framed to the underside of the beams carrying the bell frame in such a manner as to resist any vibration that might otherwise be conveyed from the bell frame into the walls of the tower. As well as preventing the vibration, a certain amount of the weight of the bells is taken by the cradling and conveyed to the first floor level, thus relieving the upper portion of the

tower. The beams and joists of the first floor have been repaired as well as the oak boarding on the top. A new floor of deal has been laid over the old oak boards for strength. The earth at the ground of floor has been excavated and a good bed of cement concrete laid, on top of which new oak boards are laid in mastic and nailed into concrete. English oak seats and other fittings have been made and fixed in the space under the tower for choir and clergy.

Where the plaster was removed from the walls they have been replastered in a similar manner to the old plaster, and treated with lime wash. Other repairs have been done to the chancel and nave, such as underpinning and making good the walls where defective. The roof of the chancel is without any tie beams, and the weight of the stone slates must have been a severe strain on the walls, which are bulged and leaning outwards at the top. An iron tie has been inserted close against the tower wall, and well secured on the outside faces of the north and south walls. The leaded glazing of the windows in the tower has been repaired, and two new iron casements inserted for ventilation.

Traces of old wall paintings were discovered on jambs of windows, unfortunately in a dilapidated condition. They have been carefully preserved and left exposed.

It should be remembered that the tower was not only condemned by a firm of architects, but by an engineer, as being beyond repair. There are many buildings in a similar plight which could be dealt with in a like manner, but such work can only be done, as in this

instance, by the architect directing the work on the spot. To attempt to repair a building in such a disintegrated condition without constant supervision would be useless, for a contingency might arise which would need to be dealt with at once, and the delay caused in referring the matter to the Architect might prove disastrous.

Croydon Palace Chapel, Surrey.

After many vicissitudes the chapel of Croydon Palace is to be used again for the purpose for which it was originally erected.

The palace is now the property of the Sisters of the Church, and, at the invitation of the Mother Superior, two professional members met the architect at the chapel on behalf of the Society, with the object of making suggestions for its repair and preservation.

It was found that the building was originally of timber construction. Each truss with its massive curved tie-beam and curved braces rested upon oak posts rising from the floor level. The wall plates, immediately over the side windows, originally had diagonal braces springing from these oak posts to their underside. This could be seen owing to the window of the second bay from the east, on the north side, having been removed.

The chapel is about 25ft. 6in. wide, and 70ft. long, measuring to the middle of the west wall, which is set obliquely to the side walls, thus making the south wall longer than the north wall.

There are four trusses dividing the building into five

bays, and a screen coming between the two westernmost trusses leaves the chapel three and a half bays long, and an ante-chapel, where the font stands, one and a half bays long. It is approached by a flight of stone steps, and on its south side there is a modern wooden staircase leading to a fine Elizabethan gallery or pew.

The original timber building appears to be of the fourteenth century. Probably the oak supports showed signs of giving way in the sixteenth century, and then the brick buttresses were built with thin screen walls between them. All the windows are of five lights. The three middle bays have a window on each side, and the east wall has a window.

The building is in urgent need of repair, and it is with the utmost satisfaction that the Committee is able to report that the necessary works are being carried out in a manner which has its entire approval. They are to be supervised on the spot by a gentleman who has had considerable experience in dealing with ancient buildings, who will receive his directions from the architect.

The Committee has sent the following letter to the Mother Superior :—

*To the Mother Superior,
Sisters of the Church.*

MADAM,

At a meeting of the Committee of this Society, held here yesterday, your architect, Mr. Dickie, submitted his scheme for repairing the Chapel of Croydon Palace, and fitting it for its holy use.

The Committee is thoroughly satisfied with his proposals, and thinks that his estimate of Five Hundred

Pounds, which we note does not include the cost of supervision or any appreciable sum for contingencies, is reasonable, and therefore it thinks you ought to be prepared for an expenditure of Six Hundred Pounds.

As already promised, the Society will watch the progress of the work in the interest of ancient buildings, and it sincerely hopes that the public will give you pecuniary support to assist you in carrying out so desirable and necessary a work.

I am, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

10th February, 1905.

Denton Church Tower, Lincolnshire.

In the last report a description of this building was given (pages 24-26) and it was stated that the works of repair were in progress and would be described in this report.

Before the scaffolding was erected the foundations were examined, and found to be built of large stones in excellent condition. On the south side, immediately below the ground, they project 12in. beyond the face of the wall and around the buttresses. On the north side they project to the extent of 3ft. beyond the face of the wall. From their irregularity of outline, it would appear that they belong to an earlier building, probably in connection with the existing north aisle of the church, which dates from the thirteenth century.

The projecting portion of the turret staircase was found to be built on the surface of the ground without any proper foundation.

The tower was found to lean, from the ground up to the first floor level, in a north-westerly direction, to the extent of 4 inches.

The north and south walls reduce join. in thickness, on the outside face, at this level, the off-sets being covered with stone weatherings. This settlement appears to have occurred during the progress of building, and to have been discovered and rectified, to some extent, at the first floor level.

The stage above is fairly upright on all its faces. Above this level the walls batter on the outside to the extent of 5 inches on each face, and at the same time lean slightly in a north-westerly direction.

It is of interest to note that it was originally intended to build a spire to the tower, as the internal angles are corbelled over for this purpose to form an octagon at the level of the parapet, on which the spire would stand. However, had the spire been built, it is questionable whether the tower would have been standing at the present time.

The south wall appears to have been considerably weakened by the staircase which is formed at its east end, and which, from the ground-level up to the first floor, partly projects beyond the south face of the tower. A little below the first floor level the staircase changes its course to within the angle, and is partly corbelled over the internal face of tower, in which position it continues up to the roof. The original access was from the inside of the tower, but of late years this has been built up and a new entrance formed from the outside, cutting

through the solid portion of the wall in a most unfortunate manner. Originally weak, from the absence of a good foundation, the staircase settled badly and fell away from the south wall, and as the south abutment of the tower arch, and the west abutment of the south arcade of the nave, occur close against the staircase, these also have helped to thrust it out of position. Several of the stone steps were found to be broken asunder.

Where the staircase corbels over the internal angle, it rests immediately above the tower arch, and had caused considerable displacement in the stones of the arch.

On the outside angles occur the buttresses on each face of the tower. The one on the south face is built on the projecting portion of the staircase, the settlement of which had greatly deprived the buttress of its original support. The buttress on the east face was found to overhang the wall of the nave by about half its width and several of its lower stones were broken by the uneven bearing. The other buttresses up to the first floor level were found to be in a fairly good condition.

The west wall of the tower is greatly weakened by a large window, which, with the doorway underneath, pierces the wall to within a few feet of the first floor. In 1870 the solid filling-in of the window was removed and the present modern four-light window inserted within the old jambs and arch. The inner arch over the doorway, which supports the window, had, since the insertion, given way. Cracks occurred in the new tracery and transom, and the old arch over the window was in a weak condition.

The north wall up to the first floor level was found to be in a sound condition, with the exception of its junction with the north respond of the tower arch, where a modern flue had been inserted in connection with the heating apparatus.

The tower arch, which is very lofty, occupies the full width of the tower. Considerable movement had taken place in the pointed arch and in the wall over.

The first floor—35ft. above the ground floor—is constructed with old oak beams, with an unfortunate modern ceiling of varnished pitch pine. A square-headed window occurs on the north, south and west faces, and gives light to the ringing chamber. The east wall contains a doorway on to the nave roof.

The walls above the first floor level, with the exception of the north wall, were badly cracked and disintegrated. The cracks occurred chiefly in the centre of the walls, over and under the various openings and penetrated the full thickness of the walls.

A second floor occurs 14ft. 10in. above the first floor and contains the works of the present clock. There is also a double arched recess on each face of the tower, immediately below and on a line with the belfry openings. The walls at this level were found to be in a most dilapidated condition with the exception of the north side. The cracks, which penetrated their full thickness, were much larger than those in the ringing chamber below. The cracks appear to have been caused in the first instance by the uneven settlement of the walls, and afterwards enlarged by the vibration caused by the

ringing of the bells in a defective frame which came into contact with the north and west walls, which, in the course of time, would have ruined the tower.

The belfry floor is 14ft. above the second floor. The four beams supporting the bell frame rest on the north and south walls. The peal of six bells are dated 1782, with the exception of the treble, which is dated 1839.

The walls of the belfry stage were found to be in a sound condition, with the exception of two cracks under the windows, and where the flue from the heating apparatus had been inserted.

The roof is of oak, covered with lead. A few years ago the stone gargoyle on the north side gave way and fell to the ground.

The stone pinnacles at the angles are high and slender. They are unfortunately finished with heavy modern stone tops.

The first piece of work to be undertaken was the underpinning of the projecting portion of the turret staircase. A good cement concrete foundation was inserted on the gravel bed on which the tower stands. On this the wall of the staircase has been underpinned with hard bricks in cement mortar. The wall, where weakened, above the present entrance to the staircase, has been strengthened by means of cement concrete lintels and corbels, moulded in position, underneath the broken steps. The steps up to the first floor level have been strengthened by a similar treatment.

The crack at the junction of the staircase with the south wall has been repaired from the interior and the

staircase well bonded into the solid portion of the wall. Where the projecting staircase finishes at the first floor level the walls have been strengthened and rebonded to the solid angle of the tower. The buttresses at this angle, which rest on the top of staircase and the wall of nave, have been underpinned with new stones where shattered, and bonded into the solid wall. Where the staircase corbels over the internal angle of the tower, the series of stone corbels have been strengthened and bonded into the south and east walls of the tower. The tower arch and the wall over have been repaired and strengthened and a horizontal brick lintel inserted over the arch in the thickness of the wall, thus forming a tie across the tower and relieving the arch of some of the weight of the superstructure. A similar lintel has been inserted in the west wall over the arch of window, and returned into the north and south walls. The arch itself has been strengthened, and where cracks occurred in the tracery and transom of window they have been made good and the joints grouted in. The flat segmental arch over the doorway, and immediately under the sill of the window has been reset, and strengthened on the top with a concrete lintel, on which the sill of the window has been pinned up.

Various works of repair and strengthening of the walls from the interior were done piece by piece, the more difficult work being above the first floor level.

The ends of beams supporting the floors were examined and where decayed, stone corbels have been inserted to carry them.

Immediately above the second floor level a continuous horizontal brick lintel has been inserted around the east, south and west walls in the thickness of the walls. A similar lintel has also been inserted under the belfry floor, on which the beams carrying the bell frame rest.

The exterior surface of the tower was perished in places owing to the action of the weather upon the local sandstone with which the walls are faced. In most cases the decay was superficial and has been made good, after cutting away the perished surface, with blue lias lime and Trent sand in proper proportions. A few stones were so badly perished as to make renewal essential. The whole of the walls of the Tower, both internal and external, have been repointed in blue lias lime mortar.

The bell frame was moved bodily without removing the bells which have been put into thorough repair so that they can be rung without injury to the tower, the frame being carefully strengthened, repaired, and properly fixed to the beams which support it.

As a further precaution against the effects of vibration the old beams which support the bell frame have been stiffened by means of two pairs of diagonal struts, of English oak, framed into a headpiece bolted to the underside of the beams, and into a sill piece resting on the beams of the floor below. By this means any movement in the beams is prevented, and a certain amount of the weight of the bells removed to the floor below, thus relieving the upper portion of the walls to a great extent.

The lead of roof has been made good, a lightning conductor provided, the clock cleaned and the dial painted and regilded.

New floors have been provided to the ringing chamber and the floor over.

The steps of the staircase were badly worn and of various heights. They have been reduced to an average height and made good with granite dust and cement.

Other small repairs were carried out, and the tower is now substantial and sound and in a good structural condition. The works were carried out, in accordance with the Society's usual custom, under the direction of the architect on the spot in consultation with the Society.

The architect has received a letter from the Vicar, on behalf of the Repair Committee, expressing the thanks of that body for the able and efficient manner in which the works were carried out.

Doveridge Mill, Derbyshire.

It often happens that the Committee is disappointed at not receiving replies to its letters, but it has on several occasions discovered that although replies have not been received, the advice given has been followed, or an appeal listened to. Doveridge Mill is a case in point.

As it was rumoured that the ancient water-mill was to be destroyed, a letter was sent some years ago pleading for its preservation, and giving reasons for its retention.

No answer was received, but the Committee has

recently heard that the building has been preserved. The place is not so picturesque as it was, because more smartened up, but only one small lean-to and some fine old flood gates have been removed.

The old external wheels, which are unusual and very picturesque, remain, although unused, and will therefore some day decay. A turbine has been put in to work a separator. Still, it is encouraging to find the ancient building intact when it was feared it had been destroyed.

Draycott-in-the-Clay Mill, Derbyshire.

This is a similar case to that of Doveridge Mill, but in so far as its treatment is concerned, more successful.

The Society's correspondent informs the Committee that its letter to Lord Vernon's Agent has resulted in the preservation of the building, which has been excellently repaired. It is externally much the same as it was in 1881. The same stones and bricks are replaced where they had fallen out, and old tiles have been used to patch the roof. It is still a beautiful object to paint and photograph.

Internally there has been more alteration. The floor was very liable to get flooded and the ceiling timbers above were too low. Both have been raised and the beam, which had a date carved on it, has gone, which is a pity. The consolation is that the internal improvements enable it to be used as a mill and so provide a motive for keeping it in repair in the future.

The tenant of the farm informed our member that he

is to be allowed to use the mill for grinding meal for his animals, which is what was suggested in the Society's letter to the Agent.

The Committee has forwarded a letter of thanks to the Agent for his action in the matter.

Dumbleton Church, Gloucestershire.

The architect, in whose hands this characteristic building was placed, very kindly permitted the Society to see his plans.

Unfortunately the works proposed were found to be contrary to the Society's principles, but the Architect was good enough to meet a member of the Committee at the building, and the proposals which were considered by it to be objectionable were discussed, with the result that some of them were abandoned and others modified.

The Committee is grateful to the architect for his courtesy to the Society and its representative.

Ecton Church, Northants.

The Committee refers to this case because it shows that the Society's influence is not confined to this country alone.

It is proposed to restore Ecton Church at a cost of £6,000, and the Rector made an appeal for funds in the American press on the ground that Benjamin Franklin's father was born at Ecton.

A subscription was set on foot in America and a

member of the Society residing there informed the Committee that he would help the work if it was satisfactory, or if otherwise, he would make the facts known out there.

In reply to the Committee's enquiries, the Rector courteously allowed the Committee to see the Architect's plans and specification.

The Committee was much distressed to find that a drastic scheme of "restoration" was contemplated. Correspondence took place with the Rector and every effort was made to get the proposals modified, but without result.

The only course open to the Committee was to inform our member of the facts. We hope the Americans will not give monetary support to a scheme which, if carried out, would deprive Ecton Church of a considerable portion of the interest which it now has and which it possessed when the father of Benjamin Franklin lived there.

Eynsford Church, Kent.

The Committee was informed that it was proposed to place a clock dial in the centre of the Tower between the ringing chamber and belfry windows, and if this were done an ancient carved head would be destroyed. It wrote to the authorities stating that it would be quite unjustifiable to remove this head and suggesting that the difficulty might be easily and satisfactorily met by placing the dial on the right or left hand side of the tower face.

The Committee is pleased to report that its suggestion has been adopted, the dial being placed on the right hand side of the Tower, and that the effect of placing it out of the centre has given satisfaction.

Ancient Bridge, Frensham, Surrey.

Owing to the use of heavy traction engines, this bridge—one of the finest over the river Wey—was found to be in a disintegrated condition.

It would have been extremely difficult to repair the bridge and make it again fit for traffic, and as the bridge had a roadway only 12ft. wide, and the arches extend over a distance of something like 78ft., the Committee decided, after inspecting the structure, that it could not ask for the preservation of the bridge as it stood. It therefore wrote to the Surrey County Council urging that the faces of the bridge should be rebuilt so as to give the required width, and it was pointed out that it was quite probable the lower face, with its five fine buttresses might be retained, and only the upper face, with its cutwaters, rebuilt higher up the stream, thus giving the desired width. The Committee added that a steel or iron bridge would be a serious disfigurement to the locality.

The Committee was glad to learn that the repair and widening of the bridge was to be carried out much on the lines which it suggested, by widening it and rebuilding the upper face with its cutwaters only.

The importance of pointing the surfaces of the stone-

work with blue lias lime mortar, and not cement mortar, was particularly urged, for the bridge would lose in beauty if cement were used.

Hessett Church, Suffolk.

St. Ethelbert's Church, Hessett, is an almost unrestored building of peculiar beauty and charm. It lies a few feet off the roadway, in the centre of a small village of thatch roofed plastered cottages.

The building was visited on behalf of the Society at the request of some persons interested in its welfare.

The Church is built of flint pebbles, bricks, and a mouse-gray limestone, externally plastered (tower and porch excepted) with an ancient plaster of rich brown colour, dappled with gray lichen. The internal wall face has its ancient covering of plaster; and through a skin of whitewash the dim remains of paintings are everywhere traceable. The whole of the old oak, lead covered roofs remain intact; and every window, with the exception of the four that have been filled with modern stained glass, retains its original ironwork, and beautiful remnants of the painted glass. Many of the ancient fittings have been preserved, the nave seats, choir seats, screen and font being original.

The chancel is a fourteenth century building; and probably portions of the aisle walls, and the lower stages of the tower belong to that period. The tracery of the east window is unusually interesting, but much obliterated by a thick wire protection to some bad modern glass.

One of the two south windows, and the door, are "restorations," as well as the piscina sedilia, and credence. The floor is of cement, partially covered with very objectionable tiles.

The external face of the south wall has been skinned, and its fussy nodular surface is a striking example of "what not to do." The east end has been badly replastered, but it is not objectionable.

The nave, aisles, porch, chapel, vestry, and tower, are all fifteenth century works, varying in date from about 1420 to 1480. The tower and porch were built about 1450 by John Bacon, whose initials, J. B., are carved on the beautiful parapet of the tower, and inlaid on the buttresses of the porch. The north chapel and the priests' loft were built about 1480 by John Hoo, and an inscription of beautiful letters forms a narrow frieze under the battlements. The battlements now on the loft were probably taken from the one-storied vestry, built some twenty or thirty years earlier, and the design carried along the whole length of chapel and aisle.

The vestry and loft are most interesting buildings.

A curious oak construction, half ladder, half stair, with an iron studded trap-door at the top, gives access to the loft. Under the stair, in the vestry, is an ancient fireplace. The ceiling is of thickly timbered oak, upon which the loft floor is laid.

The ancient Pyx cloth and Burse are kept here, under glass. The Pyx cloth is 2ft. 6in. square, of drawn linen work, with a silk fringe, and gilt wood pendants with tassels. In the centre is a small hole for the chain. It

hangs now in its case from a small ivory cross. The Burse is dated 1420, made of flax, and painted. The head of the Christ is on the front, and on the back the Agnus Dei. The Burse and the Pyx cloth were both found in the large six foot iron bound chest, now under the tower.

The finely traceried font is of the same date as the chapel, and was given by John Hoo, as was set forth on an inscribed step. This step has been wisely protected by a wooden cover. The brazen eagle was sold in 1654 for £2!

The choir and nave seats are mid-fifteenth century work. The seats for the choir are raised on a 12 in. stone plinth; the fronts are traceried, and the ends have carved heads. The nave seats are very simple, being only moulded. Both are massive and roomy. The screen has lost its canopy and loft. It was recoloured recently with considerable skill, when the modern cresting and shaft finials were added.

A few of the wall paintings are clear and can be understood. The whitewash was carefully removed from these a few years ago; but they have faded much since then. Near the south door is a large figure of St. Christopher, and in the north aisle a most interesting painting of the seven deadly sins. There are a number of mural monuments; and one in the Hoo Chapel, dated 1624, is especially good.

There is an incommunicable charm about this building that is proof of the good artistry of the mediæval builders, of the mellowness of age, and the absence of

the restorer's caricatures. In order to preserve and hand on this charm undiminished it is essential that the necessary repairs should be carried out with the greatest care and skill and under proper supervision.

The church as a whole is in good condition, and compares well with many of the same age; but there are several structural defects more or less urgently in need of repair; and many small defects that should receive attention in order to prolong the life of the building and fittings.

At the time when the Society's report was made the living was vacant, but a new Rector has recently been appointed, and as a result of correspondence with him the Committee is glad to be able to state that the nave roof and the glazing are about to be repaired in accordance with the Society's recommendations. When sufficient funds are forthcoming the Committee hopes that the rest of the works will be taken in hand.

Holcombe Poor House, Somerset.

At the request of a member who had been appealed to, this building was visited on behalf of the Society.

It is of very great interest, and was probably built in the fifteenth century. It measures internally about 17ft. wide and 38ft. long, and its South end has a fine fireplace, the opening of which is 14ft. wide and 5ft. deep. There is a magnificent oak beam over the opening 1ft. 6in. deep and 1ft. 3in. wide.

At the time of our member's visit the building was divided into three compartments by two oak screens;

the southern one, which had a four-centred arched opening, was in good preservation, but the northern screen was dilapidated. The central compartment between the two screens has a fireplace on its western side, with what appeared to be a characteristic chimney, though as it was covered with ivy the details could not be clearly seen.

There is a two-light window in the east wall, near the first named fireplace which appears to be coeval with the building. The doorway, a little to the north of it, may be an original doorway, but it has no detail by which it might be dated, and there is a window in the same wall at the north end, also of uncertain date.

There is another doorway and window at the north end of the west wall, both of which appear to be modern.

A finely moulded beam in position shows the level of the old ceiling.

The purpose for which the building was erected is uncertain, but it is undoubtedly of considerable antiquarian and historical interest.

The Committee has been informed that the screens dividing the building have been removed, but as it understands there is an action at law concerning the property and its treatment, which is *sub judice*, it purposely refrains from entering further into the matter at the present time.

Hough Church, Grantham, Lincolnshire.

The Church at Hough appears to have been built

late in the fourteenth century, with the exception of the Tower, which is of Saxon date. It was visited by the Society at the request of the Patron—the Earl Brownlow—and the Rector.

The building consists of a chancel with an aisle on the north side, nave, with north and south aisles, a porch and western tower.

The walls are built of stone, rubble faced on the outside and plastered on the inside. They appear to be contemporary, with the exception of the chancel aisle, which seems to have been rebuilt in the eighteenth century.

The south wall of the chancel contains two thirteenth century windows, which probably belonged to the previous church. At its west end is a fine two-light fourteenth century window, east of which is a priests' doorway of modern date. The east wall contains a five-light sixteenth century window, the mullions of which have been renewed.

The north wall is pierced with an arcade of two bays, which gives access to the aisle. The east bay, which is screened off, forms the present vestry. The west bay contains the organ.

The nave arcades consist of two wide bays of fourteenth century date, over which the clerestory appears to have been built in the fifteenth century.

The north and south aisles appear to be contemporary with the nave.

There is a fine two-light, square-headed window of fourteenth century date at the centre of the north aisle,

on each side of which windows of late date occur. The west wall contains a small round-headed window.

The south aisle has two beautiful square-headed windows of fifteenth century date, on the east of the porch, and on the west is a small round-headed window, which, with the lancet window in the east wall, probably belonged to the previous church. The west wall contains another fine two-light fourteenth century window.

The lower portion of the tower, up to the belfry stage, with the projecting stone staircase, is a unique specimen of Saxon workmanship. The belfry, with its parapet and pinnacles, is of late fifteenth century date.

The roofs of the chancel and nave appear to be the original timber roofs, constructed to a flat pitch and covered with cast lead.

The condition of the fabric generally, with the exception of the roofs of the nave and south aisle, does not call for any very serious repair. There are other minor points which will have to be dealt with, the most important of which is the strengthening of the bell cage, and the repair of cracks in the tower. The works necessary have been fully set forth in the Society's report upon the building, which is now being considered by the Authorities.

Kirkstead Chapel, Lincolnshire.

This beautiful building has been referred to in the Society's reports on several occasions, and the Com-

mittee has for many years done its utmost to get it repaired.

In the report for 1897 (page 42) it was mentioned that a member of the Society had offered to contribute £100 towards the repair of the building on condition that it was transferred to the National Trust, but the Owner did not see his way to accept the offer.

The Committee is still receiving so many letters upon the subject that it recently decided to make another effort to bring about the preservation of the building. Especially as it was reported that the owner was thinking of selling the property on which the chapel stands, and further offers of monetary assistance showed that there would be no difficulty in raising the amount required for repairs.

The Society therefore communicated with the "National Trust," who approached the owner, but were informed that he would not sell the chapel apart from the estate of 1,500 acres; which it was, of course, out of the power of the "National Trust" to purchase.

This is very disappointing as it is now difficult to see how this priceless example of thirteenth century architecture can be prevented from falling to ruin.

St. Magnus' Cathedral, Kirkwall, Orkney.

It is to be feared that a crowning calamity has fallen upon this once magnificent building. By the will of the late Sheriff Thoms a large sum of money has been bequeathed for the restoration of the Cathedral.

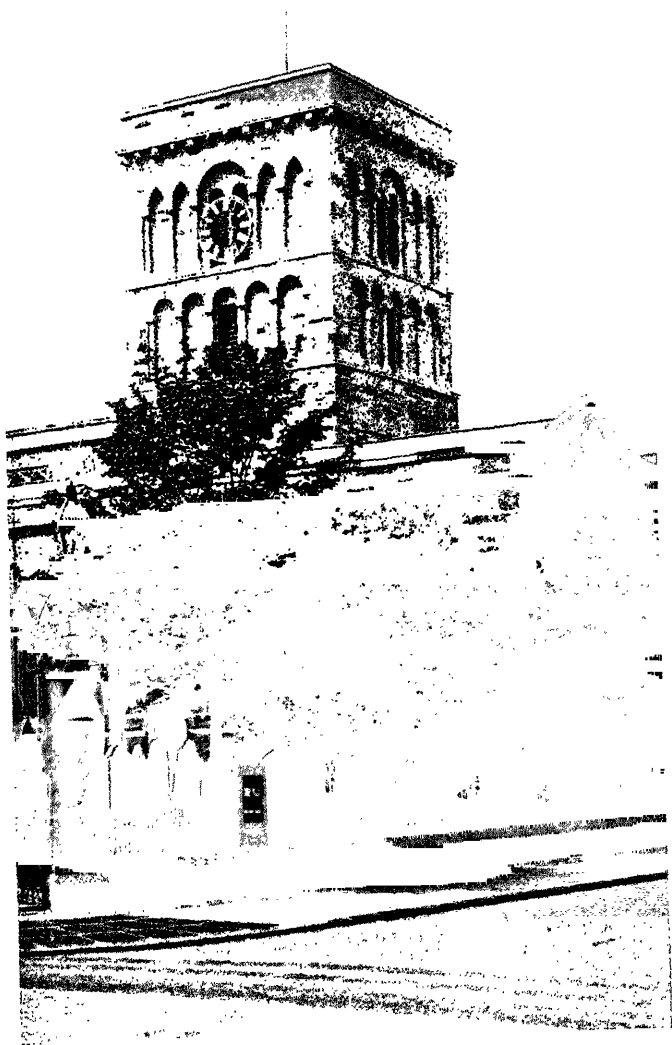
* In the last report (pages 35-37 a description was given



J. Burton & Sons, Leicester. Photo.

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH TOWER, LEICESTER,

BEFORE RESTORATION.



J. Burton & Sons, Leicester. Photo.

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH TOWER, LEICESTER,
AFTER RESTORATION.

of some "restoration" work which had been done. This work was most harmful in the aggregate, but still it was to some extent limited for want of funds. Now that a large sum has been set aside for restoration, what can be expected? As a matter of fact only a small proportion of the money can be spent in repair, and the balance can only go towards making the building look spick and span, and it is to be feared it will become a poor modern conjectural copy of a genuine work of the mediæval builders, without value as a work of art, or historical worth as an authentic record.

St. Nicholas' Church Tower, Leicester.

The "restoration" of this building, which was referred to in the last report (pages 37-40), has been completed. The Committee gives a view of the tower before the works were started, and another after they had been completed.

It will be seen from the latter that the tower no longer possesses any great artistic merit, for the greater part of the surfaces are new and mechanical, and its value as a genuine record is gone.

Colfe's Almshouses, Lewisham.

Situated in the High Street of Lewisham these interesting buildings constitute almost the only remaining portion of "Old Lewisham" in that thoroughfare.

The Almshouses were erected about the year 1664 in accordance with the will of Abraham Colfe, Vicar of Lewisham, seven years after his death.

Owing to the Colfe Governors (The Leathersellers'

Company) being unable to see their way to comply with certain requirements of the Local Authorities the Almshouses are now closed.

The Trustees of the Lewisham Parochial Charities are anxious that the Almshouses should be preserved, and the Society has furnished them with a report in which are enumerated the works necessary to put the Almshouses into a satisfactory structural and sanitary condition. A copy of this report has been forwarded to the Leathersellers' Company.

The difficulty is that so large a portion of the income of the Charity has been allocated to the support of the School connected with it that but little remains for the upholding of the Almshouses. There are four houses with a chapel in the centre.

The houses are comfortably planned, with plenty of air and sunshine, and they are, generally speaking, in good order. The roof timbers are sound, but the tiling has been neglected and the tiles require to be rehung on new laths. The dormer windows need repair and some minor works are necessary. The question of drainage and water supply also calls for attention, but there can be no doubt that the Almshouses can, at a small expense, be made perfectly fit to continue to serve the purpose for which they were originally erected.

The Committee sincerely trusts that such a wealthy body as the Leathersellers' Company will not permit Lewisham to be deprived of an interesting part of its history, which would be the result if the Almshouses were demolished



No. 15, GRAY'S INN SQUARE,
NOW DEMOLISHED.



No. 15, GRAY'S INN SQUARE,
NOW DEMOLISHED.

Llanycefn Church, Pembrokeshire.

An appeal was forwarded to the Society, at the head of which two views were given, one showing the building as it is and the other as it would be after "restoration."

The Committee would very much have liked to reproduce these two sketches, for they are such an object lesson. The old building is shown to be simple, but full of vitality; the "restored" building practically a modern erection, dull, meretricious and commonplace.

The Committee is glad to state it has reason to believe that the scheme is to be radically modified.

London. No. 15, Gray's Inn Square.

The building known as No. 15, Gray's Inn Square, but really on the east side of Field Court, was undoubtedly the most characteristic and picturesque portion of the Inn.

The excuse given by the Benchers for its destruction was that the foundations were faulty, and that accommodation was required for class rooms, etc., for the students.

With regard to the first of these statements, if the foundations were insecure they could easily have been made sound, and the Society offered the Benchers a report setting forth how the building could be repaired and put into a proper structural condition without appreciable loss of interest. As to the second reason, the Society urged that the accommodation should be provided in a building which could have been erected on

the vacant space from which buildings were removed on the west side of Field Court.

The Committee decided to obtain signatures to a petition to the Benchers, begging them to reconsider their decision, and as it learnt that the destruction of the building had begun, it asked the Steward for a delay of ten days until the memorial could be presented. However, the Steward replied that he had no authority to delay the work, and therefore, although the petition had been in course of signature for only five days, it was at once forwarded to the Benchers. It was largely signed by many eminent people—Peers, Members of Parliament, Artists, Architects, and a large number of residents in the Inn.

But the petition had no result, and the house has now disappeared, and London has lost one of its most typical bits of eighteenth century architecture.

We give two views of the building.

The Reader's House, Ludlow, Salop.

A report reached the Society to the effect that this well-known building, which has been used as a store-house for many years, was going to be made into a dwelling house for the Reader. Although the Committee would like to see the house inhabited, it was fearful lest a "restoration" should be attempted.

Upon making inquiries it found that the report had some foundation, but that on the score of expense the proposal had been given up.

The Committee is glad to learn that there is no danger of the building being allowed to fall into a state of decay.

Marston Church, Lincolnshire.

The Vicar asked the Society for monetary help, and forwarded a printed appeal giving extracts from the architect's report. Before coming to a decision, it was arranged for one of the Society's professional members to visit the building, and upon the receipt of his report the Committee had a long correspondence with the architect. From this correspondence it was evident that the Architect believed in the possibility of "restoring" ancient work and reproducing missing features, and that he proposed to carry his belief into practice in the case of Marston Church.

The Committee was, therefore, reluctantly compelled to decline to contribute towards the cost of the work.

Church of St. Peter Hungate, Norwich.

In February of the present year a faculty was issued for the "dilapidation" of this building, which of course meant its destruction. But owing to the action of a member of this Society—H.H. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh—the matter was allowed to stand over for six months to see whether the sum necessary to repair the building can be raised.

The proposal is to repair the building and to hand it over to the National Trust.

The Society made a report upon the building last year, and it is estimated that £650 will be required. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh is making every effort to raise this sum, and the Committee will be deeply grateful to any member who may be able to help.

The church is the more interesting from the fact that it was built in the fifteenth century by John Paston.

All lovers of ancient architecture owe a debt of gratitude to Prince Frederick Duleep Singh for his action in the matter.

Peatling Magna Church, Leicestershire.

Several members of the Society forwarded to the Committee appeals received by them, and asked whether the proposed works were in accordance with the Society's principles.

After some correspondence with the Vicar, a professional member of the Society visited the building and inspected the plans. As a result of his report the Committee appealed to the Vicar to obtain the modification of the architect's proposals. Although there is reason for believing that the Vicar only wishes for the church to be repaired and made fit for worship the Committee, so far, has not been able to obtain an assurance from him that the plans will be modified in accordance with the Society's suggestions, although it has reason for believing that some of the suggestions will be modified and adopted.

The Committee trusts this will be the case, as the

Society could not support a scheme which, among other things, includes the building of a new porch, almost entirely rebuilding the east wall of the chancel, and the insertion of three lancet windows at the east end ; an entirely new roof to the nave and chancel, new pews, the " restoration " of tracery to the screen, and a new wall and arch between the nave and chancel.

Houses, Penrith, Cumberland.

The Penrith Urban District Council recently acquired two houses with a view to altering them to serve the purposes of a Town Hall and Public Library and Museum.

These houses, judging from the photographs and description in the Society's possession, are undoubtedly the work of Robert Adam.

The Committee learnt that designs had been prepared for converting the houses to serve their new purpose, and that these designs, if carried into effect, would deprive the houses of a considerable portion of their interest. A letter was addressed to the Urban District Council urging that the matter should be considered. As a result of this letter, and the action of the National Trust, together with strong local opposition, the works which had been started were stopped, and the Committee allowed to see the plans.

At the request of the Urban District Council the Society forwarded its views upon the plans, and explained how the requisite accommodation could be pro-

vided without appreciably altering the external aspect of the houses. It would only have been necessary to take out a doorway which would come into the middle of the newsroom, and to fill in the opening with a window frame with sash bars.

Unfortunately the Council decided, by a majority, to proceed with the work in accordance with the plans, and thus Penrith will lose one of the few examples of building in the north part of the town, which has any claims to beauty or to old artistic associations.

The thanks of the Society are due to the Rev. Canon Rawnsley for the energetic way in which he moved in the matter.

Rauceby Church Tower, Lincolnshire.

This building was visited at the request of Major-General Sir Mildmay Willson, who resides at Rauceby.

The tower, with its spire, appears to have been built early in the thirteenth century, and is of exceptional interest. A circular staircase at the south-west angle gives access to the ringing chamber and belfry, and continues up into the lower portion of the spire, where there has evidently been another chamber at the level of the existing beams.

The tower arch is pointed in form and springs from finely moulded caps. There is a two-light window on the west face at the ground level, and at the first floor level of the east wall a round-headed opening exists over the tower arch.

The belfry windows on each face of the tower are deeply recessed. The jambs have detached shafts with moulded caps and bases, from which spring a richly-moulded round-headed arch, on each side of which is a pointed arch, forming an arcade round the tower.

A fine corbel course occurs at the top of the tower. The belfry contains four bells.

The spire is octagonal on plan and rests on a square base. It has openings in its height at three levels. The lower ones of two lights with moulded jambs and round-headed arch, ornamented with leafage, the intermediate ones consist of two-pointed lights and the top ones of a single-pointed light. The masonry at the top of the spire, for several feet down, is loose and displaced. Vegetation is growing in the beds and joints around the base.

On the north-east angle of the tower a modern heating chamber exists below the ground level.

There are several cracks of a serious nature in the walls of the tower, and it is evident that movement is still going on in the east and west walls.

The Committee forwarded a report to Sir Mildmay Willson, setting forth the works of repair necessary for the preservation of the tower, and giving an estimate of the probable cost, and he has informed the Committee that they are trying to raise the necessary funds.

Central Tower, Rochester Cathedral, Kent.

The new central tower, referred to in the last Report (pages 52 and 53), has been completed.

The following is an extract from an article which appeared in the *Daily News* on November 30th, 1904 :—

“When I saw what had been done to Rochester Cathedral (writes a representative who yesterday visited the grand old edifice) I nearly burst into tears. The square tower has disappeared. In its place arises about one hundred and twenty feet of bright yellow stonework and lead spire. It hurts. Below a poetic pile of softest grey, with rugged walls of flint and rubble; above, this staring yellow stonework, with a surface smooth as glass, surmounted by that structure of metal zigzags, exhibiting four great clock-faces plentifully picked out in gold. It hurts very much indeed.”

In the same article an interview with the architect is reported, and he is stated to have said that the new tower is a “glorified repetition” of the tower built by Bishop Hamo, of Hythe, early in the fourteenth century. Therefore, it appears that this restoring architect not only claims to be able to reproduce mediæval work but also to improve upon it.

The Tower, Shrewsbury Abbey Church, Shropshire.

In the note which appeared in last year's Report, the Committee stated that the Society had made a report upon this building, and that the Vicar had promised to communicate with the Society when the necessary funds were in hand, with a view of carrying out the Society's recommendations.

Statements appeared in the public press from time to time to the effect that the repairs were to be carried out in accordance with the Society's advice, but upon the

Committee approaching the Vicar for particulars, he informed it that an architect had been appointed who would carry out the works in accordance with the Society's report. Now, the Committee always urges that the recommendations set out in the Society's reports can only be satisfactorily carried out under the personal supervision of the architect on the spot. But we know that the gentleman who has been engaged cannot, owing to the extent of his practice, give the time which is needed, and go and live at Shrewsbury while the work is in progress. Therefore, the Committee, while fully appreciating the intention to properly repair the tower, thinks it only right to protect the Society by reporting the facts, and at the same time disclaiming any responsibility whatever in the matter.

Swardeston Church, Norfolk.

At the suggestion of the Vicar of a parish whose church had been repaired under the auspices of the Society, the Treasurer of the Repair Committee appealed to the Society for advice. An architect visited the church and a report was drawn up and sent to the authorities.

The building consists of a continuous nave and chancel of fourteenth century date, with an inserted fifteenth century window in the south wall. The chancel occupies a third of the length, and is divided from the nave by an original, but considerably patched, screen. There is a south porch, at present used as a lumber room and an added fifteenth century west tower.

With the exception of the inserted window, which has been done up and glazed with "Cathedral" glass, in recent times, the building has escaped "restoration," and therefore it is of almost singular interest.

The Committee believes the authorities have decided to follow the Society's advice, but it has not yet received definite information beyond the fact that an appeal has been issued, which implies that this is the case.

Todwick Church, Yorkshire.

The Rector very kindly allowed the Committee to see the architect's plans, and it was found that the works proposed were such as the Society could not approve.

The Committee made several suggestions, and as a result of some correspondence with the Rector, it was arranged that a professional member should visit the building.

The Committee is pleased to be able to report that the outcome of its action has been the modification of the scheme to a considerable extent, and moreover the Society has been able to give the Rector advice from time to time, when he desired it.

Undoubtedly both the Patron and the Rector were anxious that the building should be dealt with in such a way as not to deprive it of its interest, but, had the plans been carried out without amendment they could only have been disappointed with the result.

This case is an illustration of the practical help which

the Society can give to the custodians of ancient buildings who have no special knowledge of architecture or the proper treatment of the buildings committed to their care.

West Ham Parish Church Tower, Essex.

The works of repair to this building are now in progress under the personal direction of the architect in consultation with the Society, local workmen being employed.

After the erection of a good scaffolding around the outside of the tower, the stone facing was found, upon examination, to be badly perished on the surface and eaten away at the beds and joints. Most of the stones being affected in this manner to the extent of 3 or 4 inches in depth and about an average height of 6 inches. The decay of the surface of the stonework is greatly due to the action of the chemicals with which the atmosphere is charged. Most of the projecting string courses and hood mouldings over the windows are eaten away and large pieces of stone were overhanging in a dangerous manner.

The chief aim in the present work is to renew the decayed portions of the ashlar in such a manner as to prevent the wet penetrating in the future. Where only a portion of the stone is decayed the object has been to preserve the sound and make good the decayed portion. By this means the facing is disturbed as little

as possible, and apart from the importance from an historical point of view, of retaining the ancient work, there is also to be considered the great gain to the strength of the building in avoiding the pulling about of the walls, which it is impossible to escape when new stone is used to make good the decayed portions. The method adopted in the present work, is the cutting away of the decayed portions and making good by replacing the decayed work with tiles built up in courses on the sound portion of the ashlar. The tiles are secured to the stones by means of frequent chases cut into the faces of the latter, into which the tiles are bonded and wedged with slate.

The mortar used for the bedding of the tiles, and the general repointing of the tower, is composed of ground blue lias lime and coarse sharp Thames sand. Every care is being taken to well clean and wet the old stone work before repointing, as well as to keep the new work from drying too quickly by repeatedly wetting it from day to day. By this means the lime, which is slow setting, adheres to the faces of the old stones and produces a perfectly waterproof surface.

The work of repointing and making good the decayed portions, as described above, is well advanced and will shortly be completed.

Owing to the prevalence of sulphuric acid gases in the atmosphere, the surface of the stonework is continually being eaten away, and in a few years' time would allow of the wet penetrating behind the new pointing. In order to prevent this the whole of the

tower will be treated with a mixture of blue lias lime and Hydrate of Barium which has been found by experience to produce a hardening of the decayed surfaces of stonework and to resist the action of the deleterious gases in the atmosphere.

The present work includes repairing and strengthening the bell frame, which is wedged against the walls in a dangerous manner, repairing and refixing the lead head and down pipes conveying the water from the roof and a new flagstaff in place of a former unsafe one.

*Whaplode Church, Lincolnshire. **

Nothing has been definitely decided with regard to the repair of this building. In the last Report (pages 66-68) it was mentioned that the matter stood over until the meeting of the Rectors—the Governors of the Estates of the Foundation of Robert Johnson, Archdeacon of Leicester.

The Vicar informs the Society that the Rectors have had a meeting, but the matter cannot advance until their next meeting. He adds that he has no doubt the Society's proposals will ultimately be carried out.

St. Oswald's Church, Widford, Oxford.

In the last Report (pages 68-69) the Committee referred to this building, and mentioned that a sum of money was needed to complete the amount necessary to enable the works of repair to be undertaken, and it has now much pleasure in reporting that a member of the Society generously gave the sum required, and that the

building has been repaired. The work has been carried out, in accordance with the Society's custom, by local workmen, under the personal supervision of the architect in consultation with the Committee.

The Committee is now able to give more particular information as to the dates of the different parts of the building. The church, which is very small, consists of a chancel of thirteenth century date, and a nave of a somewhat earlier period. The walls of the chancel are built of stone plastered internally, and faced with rubble on the outside. The east wall contains a beautiful three-light fourteenth century window. The gable over retains the old stone weathering, with the base for the cross formed at the apex. Unfortunately the cross is gone. The south wall contains two single-light thirteenth century windows, with cusped heads and a piscina of similar date near its east end. The north wall has a similar window near its west end, and an aumbry at the east end.

The chancel arch is of thirteenth century date, but the jambs of the opening up to the springing of the arch appear to be earlier.

The stone bell-cote on the gable over the chancel arch is probably of late fifteenth century date. It contains one bell, dated 1777.

In the case of the nave the walls are of similar construction to those of the chancel, and, with the exception of the north doorway, all the openings have been inserted at later periods. The north doorway, now built up, appears to be of Norman work and probably contem-

porary with the walls. On its east side occurs a two-light square-headed window, probably of seventeenth century work. The west wall contains a similar three-light window. The south wall contains the entrance doorway with a single-light window on its east and west of late fifteenth century work.

The roofs of the chancel and the nave are constructed with oak timbers open on the under side and covered with stone slates.

The floors of the passages are of stone flags, and at the pews and seats the floors are boarded.

The pews are of deal, and at the west end of nave there are a few plain old oak benches. The pulpit is of oak and retains portions which are of fifteenth century workmanship—unfortunately it is painted.

The font is of Norman date.

The work of repairs entirely consisted in making the fabric sound and weatherproof. The vegetation has been cleared away from around the outside of the building, and the loose portions of the foundations underpinned and pointed.

The east wall of the chancel had fallen into a very dilapidated condition. The mullions and tracery of the three-light window were very much displaced, and the gable over was loose and bulged outwards. It was found necessary to take down a portion of the gable and the arch and tracery of the window. The mullions of the window were refixed in an upright position, and the tracery and arches carefully replaced with the gable over and its weathering stones.

A bad crack existed in the wall under the window down to the foundation. It has been made good by cutting away the loose walling at the sides of the crack from the inside face, and rebonding the solid portions of the wall together with good long stones.

The north and south walls of the chancel are badly bulged and thrust outwards, owing to the absence of a tie beam in the roof. Both walls were completely severed from the east wall by a large crack at the angles, which extended from the foundation upwards. Another crack occurred in the south wall over the eastmost windows, and the west wall was badly cracked on each side of the arch.

The walls where cracked have been made good by cutting away the loose portions at the sides of cracks, from the inside face, and rebonding the solid portions together, as described above.

A new tie beam of English oak has been fixed across the middle of the chancel roof and bolted to the feet of the principal and to the wall plates in order to relieve the walls from the thrust of the roof.

The walls of the nave were found in a better condition than those of the chancel. The north wall was cracked near the west end and the wall over the west window was bulged outwards and badly cracked owing to the oak lintels, which support it, not having sufficient bearing on the walls. The cracks have been made good and stone corbels built into the wall to support the ends of oak lintels, with an extra lintel of concrete formed inside the wall to relieve the oak lintels.

The stone slates on both the roofs have been carefully cleaned and refixed on oak battens and bedded on a thin fillet of mortar near the head of each slate to prevent the wet penetrating.

The outside pointing of the walls had perished in places. All the defective parts have been removed and repointed with good lime and sand, finished flush with the surface of the wall. The old plaster on the inside of the walls has been carefully repaired and the portions which had to be removed for the repair of the walls, have been carefully replaced in a similar manner to the old.

On the examination of the old surface of the plaster on the walls of the chancel, evidence was found of paintings existing underneath the several coats of limewash. The work of removing the limewash and exposing the paintings has been successfully carried out on portions of the north and south walls, by means of ivory paper-knives, etc., and a series of paintings brought to light of very great interest. It is hoped to continue the work and thoroughly examine all the surfaces of the walls. On the north side of the nave, opposite the entrance doorway, a coat of arms is painted on the surface of the limewash, portions of which have scaled off and shew traces of earlier paintings underneath.

During the repairs to the foundations of the wall two portions of Roman pavement were discovered, at the north-west and south-west angles of the chancel, a few inches below the surface of the paving. That on the north side consists of a plain pavement, of stone-coloured

tesserae, with a narrow red border along the south side. It is in fairly good condition and measures about 3ft. wide by 9ft. long. The north and west walls of chancel are built on the top of the pavement.

The portion on the south side is much more elaborate and consists on a geometrical pattern of squares and hexagons worked with red, white and black tesserae. It is in good condition with the exception of some missing portions, and measures about 4ft. square, and another portion about 2ft. by 1ft. 7in. extending eastwards.

The surface of both portions is uneven and sunk in places. They have been carefully cleaned, and, where loose, grouted in with liquid blue lias lime and the stone floor of the church finished around them.

The windows were without glazing. New leaded lights of clear old glass have been provided and fixed in the openings, with casements to open for ventilation.

The seats and deal pews have been carefully repaired where necessary.

The cost of the work amounted to £150.

*The following is a list of Buildings which have come before the
Society during the Year :—*

- | | |
|--|--|
| Abinger Hammer, Surrey, Hatch Farm. | Caerwys Church, Flints. |
| Acle Church, Norfolk. | Canterbury Cathedral, Kent, |
| Alfriston Church Spire, Sussex. | Bell Harry Tower. |
| Alphamstone Church, Essex. | Cardiston Church, Salop. |
| Ambleston Church, Pembroke-shire. | Carisbrooke Church, Isle of Wight. |
| Aylesford, Kent, Bridge. | Carnarvon Castle. |
| Ayr, N.B., Ancient Bridge. | Catfield Church, Norfolk. |
| Bacton Church Tower, Hereford-shire. | Caunton Church, Nottingham. |
| Bampton Grammar School, Oxon. | Cawston Church, Norfolk. |
| Bedford, Beds., St. Paul's Church. | Ceylon, Ancient Buildings of |
| Berwick-on-Tweed, Town Walls. | Chadshunt Church, Warwickshire. |
| Binham Abbey Church, Norfolk. | Chartres Cathedral, Glass. |
| Birdlip, Glos., Roman Villa. | Chatteris Church, Cambridge. |
| Bisham Church Tower, Berks. | Chedzoy Church, Somerset. |
| Bitterne Manor, Hampshire. | Chelsham Church, Surrey. |
| Blackheath, Kent, Morden College. | Chichester, Sussex, St. Martin's Church. |
| Blythburgh Church, Suffolk. | Christow Church, Devonshire. |
| Bosham Church, Sussex. | Churchill Church, Worcester-shire. |
| Bourges Cathedral. | Chiselhampton Church, Oxon. |
| Bradwell Church Spire, Lechlade, Oxon. | Ciliau Aeron Church, Cardigan-shire. |
| Brancaster Church, Norfolk. | Claypole, Lincolnshire, Bridge. |
| Branscombe Church, Devonshire. | Cleeve Prior Church, Worcester-shire. |
| Bredon Church, Worcestershire. | Clevedon Church, Somerset. |
| Brightstone Church, Isle of Wight. | Coggeshall, Essex, House. |
| Brington Church, Northants. | Coln St. Denys Church, Glos. |
| Brixham, Devon, St. Mary's Church. | Colyton Church, Devon. |
| Buckland in the Moor Church, Devonshire. | Compton Church, Berkshire. |
| Bucklebury Church, Berkshire. | Croxton Church, Cambridge. |
| Bulford Church, Wiltshire. | Croydon, Surrey, The Palace. |
| Burford, Oxon., The Tolsey. | Croydon, Surrey, Whitgift Hos-pital. |
| Cadeleigh Church, Devonshire, | Culross Abbey, N.B. |
| Monument in. | Cyprus, Antiquities of |

- Denton Church Tower, Lincolnshire.
 Derby, No. 15 Wardwick.
 Dimsdale Hall, Derbyshire.
 Dormston Church, Worcester-shire.
 Doultling, Somerset, Churchyard Cross.
 Doveridge Mill, Derbyshire.
 Draycott in the Clay Mill, Derbyshire.
 Dumbleton Church, Gloucester-shire.
 Eastbourne, Sussex, Old Parson-age.
 East Kirkby Church, Lincs.
 East Tilbury Church, Essex.
 Ecton Church, Northants.
 Edenbridge Church, Kent.
 Egg Buckland Church, Devon-shire.
 Ellerburn Church, Yorkshire.
 Eltham Palace, Kent.
 Elton Church, Huntingdonshire.
 Esher, Surrey, St. George's Church.
 Evesham, Worcestershire, House, Bridge Street.
 Exbourne, Devonshire, Church House.
 Exeter, Devon, The Guildhall.
 Exeter, Devonshire, St. Lawrence Church.
 Exeter, Devonshire, St. Martin's Church.
 Exeter, Devonshire, St. Petrock's Church.
 Eynsford Church, Kent.
 Fakenham Church, Norfolk.
 Flamstead Church, Herts.
 Fobbing Church, Essex.
 Fotheringhay Church, Northants.
 Frampton-on-Severn, Gloucester-shire, Cottages.
 Frensham, Surrey, Old Bridge.
 Gaulby Church, Leicestershire.
 Glasgow, Saracen's Head Inn.
 Gloucester City Wall.
 Goadby Church, Leicestershire.
 Godshill Church, Isle of Wight.
 Grayne Church, Kent.
 Great Ellingham Church, Norfolk.
 Guisborough Old Church, Yorks.
 Hampton Church, Worcester-shire.
 Harrington Church, Worcester-shire.
 Hartshorne Church, Derbyshire.
 Haverfordwest Castle, Pembroke-shire.
 Hayton Church, Yorks.
 Hemblington Church, Norfolk.
 Hessett Church, Suffolk.
 Heysham, Lancs., St. Patrick's Chapel.
 Highweek Church, Devonshire.
 Hilton Church, Hunts.
 Hitchin, Herts., St. Mary's Church.
 Holcombe Rogus, Somerset, Poor House.
 Holt Church, Wilts.
 Hough Church, Lincs.
 Houghton Conquest House, nr. Ampthill, Beds.
 Huddington Court, Worcester-shire.
 Ibstock Church, Leicestershire.
 Indian Monuments.
 Kempston Church, Norfolk.
 Kirkstead Chapel, Lincolnshire.
 Kirkwall, Orkney, N.B., St. Magnus Cathedral.
 Landrake Church Tower, Cornwall.
 Lanteglos-by-Fowey Church, Cornwall.
 Leicester, St. Margaret's Church Tower.
 Leicester, St. Nicholas' Church Tower.
 Lenham Church, Kent.
 Lewisham, Kent, Colfe's Alm-houses, High Street.
 Lichfield Cathedral, Staffordshire.
 Linchmere Church, Sussex.

- Liscombe Chapel, nr. Milford, Dorset.
 Little Ilford Church, Essex.
 Little Washbourne Church, Gloucestershire.
 Llandingat Church, Carmarthen-shire.
 Llanrwin Church, Montgomery-shire.
 Llanwenog Church, Cardigan-shire.
 Llanycefn Church, Pembroke-shire.
 London, Botolph Lane, E.C., Billingsgate and Tower Wards Schools.
 London, Clifford's Inn, E.C.
 London, Craig's Court, S.W., Harrington House.
 London, No. 15, Gray's Inn Square.
 London, St. Andrew Undershaft Church.
 London, St. Lawrence Jewry Church.
 London, St. Paul's Church, Gt. Portland Street, W.
 London, Westminster, Houses.
 Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Ancient Bridge.
 Ludlow, Salop, The Reader's House.
 Luton Church, Beds.
 Lyndhurst, Hants., Old Verderers Hall.
 Maidstone, Kent, The Gate House.
 Maidstone, Kent, The Palace.
 Maidstone, Kent, St. Peter's Ch.
 Maldon Church, Essex.
 Malmesbury Abbey, Wilts.
 Manchester Cathedral, Lancs., Lady Chapel.
 Marple, Cheshire, Farm.
 Marion Church, Lincs.
 Mautby Church, Norfolk.
 Melford Church, Suffolk.
 Merton Abbey, Surrey.
 Milton Abbey, Dorset, St. Catherine's Chapel.
 Newark Abbey, Surrey.
 Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland, St. John's Church.
 Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland, The Plummer Tower.
 New Shoreham Church, Sussex.
 Northfleet Church, Kent.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St. Mary Coslany.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St. Peter Hungate.
 Nuneaton Abbey Church, Warwickshire.
 Old Huntstanton Church, Norfolk.
 Ormside Church Tower, Westmorland.
 Oxenton Church, Gloucestershire.
 Packwood House, nr. Warwick, Warwickshire.
 Painswick, Gloucestershire, London House.
 Peatling Magna Church, Leicestershire.
 Penrith, Cumberland, Houses.
 Pirbright Church Tower, Surrey.
 Plympton Grammar School, Devonshire.
 Plymtree Church, Devonshire.
 Porchester Castle, Hants.
 Portishead Church, Somerset.
 Potter Heigham Church, Norfolk.
 Purleigh Church Tower, Essex.
 Pyworthy Church, Devonshire.
 Quebec, Canada, City Walls.
 Raunceby Church Tower, Lincs.
 Ravenstonedale Church, Westmorland.
 Reading, Berks., Walsingham House, Minster Street.
 Rochester Cathedral, Kent.
 Rye, Sussex, St. Augustine's Priory.
 St. Mary Bourne Church, Hants.
 St. Marychurch Church, Devonshire.

- Salford, Manchester, Church of the Sacred Trinity.
 Sall Church, Norfolk.
 Scarborough, Yorks., Cross.
 Sleaford, Lincs., Lincolnshire.
 Seaford, Sussex, Crypt, Church Street.
 Selborne Church, Hampshire.
 Shirwell Church, Devonshire.
 Shrewsbury Abbey, Church Tower, Salop.
 Sibstone Church, Leicestershire.
 Snodland Church, Kent.
 Sonning Bridges, Oxon.
 Southam, Warwickshire, The Old Mint.
 Southampton, Mediæval Hall, Simnel Street.
 South Perrott Church, Dorset.
 Steeple Bumpstead Church Tower, Essex.
 Stenness, N.B., Standing Stones of Siddy Church, Norfolk.
 Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, Houses, Henley Street.
 Sutton Courtenay Church, Berks.
 Swainswick Church, Somerset.
 Swardston Church, Norfolk.
 Swithland Church, Devonshire.
 Syde Church, Gloucestershire.
 Threlkeld Church, Cumberland.
 Tilsworth Church, Bedfordshire.
 Tintern Abbey, Monmouthshire.
 Todwick Church, Yorks.
 Tortington Church, Sussex.
 Tudeley Church, Kent.
 Tupholme Abbey, Lincolnshire.
 Uxbridge, Middlesex, The Treaty House.
 Venice, Church of St. Mark.
 Wallingford, Berks., St. Peter's Church.
 Warndon Church, Worcester-shire.
 Warwick, St. John's House.
 Watlington, Oxon., Town Hall.
 West Ham Church Tower, Essex.
 Whaplode Church, Lincolnshire.
 Whitby Abbey, Yorks.
 Whitby Church, Yorks.
 White Ladies, Shropshire.
 Widford Church, Oxon.
 Winchelsea Church, Sussex.
 Winchester, Hants., Cheesehill Rectory.
 Winchester, Hants., The College.
 Winchester, Hants., Gateway, St. Cross Hospital.
 Woodhall Spa, Lincs., Tower on the Moor.
 Woodton Church, Norfolk, Monument in.
 Wreningham Church, Norfolk.
 York, Holy Trinity Church, Goodramgate.
 York Minster.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1904

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
To Balance at the 31st December, 1903, as per last statement	£ s. d. 57 5 3	By Payments during the year 1904:—	£ s. d. 2 0 0
" Receipts during the year 1904:—		Rector of Saintbury, Gloucestershire, for Church Repair Fund	11 0 0
Donations -	3 3 0	Rector of St. John's, Clerkenwell, for Crypt of Priory Church Repair Fund	5 0 0
Amount received for specified buildings, including Widford Church, Oxfordshire	175 5 0	Vicar of Sutton Courtenay, Berks., for Church Repair Fund	18 0 0
	178 8 0	" Cash at London City & Midland Bank, 31st December, 1904	217 13 3
			£235 13 3

28th April, 1905.

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

WILLIAM SIMMONS, Auditor.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1904.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
To Amount on Deposit at the London City & Midland Bank, as per last statement	£ s. d. 66 7 9	By Amount on Deposit at the London City & Midland Bank	£ s. d. 67 11 4
" Interest on Deposit	1 3 7		
	£67 11 4		£67 11 4

8th April, 1905.

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

WILLIAM SIMMONS, Auditor.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Dr.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1904.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1903, as per last statement	30 11 3	By Payments during the year 1904:—	
„ Receipts during the year 1904:—		Printing	28 12 6
Annual and Life Subscriptions	316 4 6	Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Expenses	39 4 3
Donations	2 11 0	Members' Travelling Expenses	31 14 8
Received for Travelling Expenses in visiting Buildings, and Sale of Reports	7 0 7	Secretary's Salary	120 0 0
	325 16 1	Clerk's Salary	78 0 0
		Rent of Office	21 0 0
			318 11 5
		„ Cash at London City & Midland Bank, 31st December, 1904	28 10 6
		„ Cash at Office	9 5 5
			37 15 11
			£356 7 4

28th April, 1905.

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

WILLIAM SIMMONS, Auditor.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION. £1 *is.* or 10s. 6d.

Subscriptions to be sent to the Secretary, THACKERAY TURNER, 20, Buckingham Street, Adelphi.

Post Office Orders should be made payable at the General Post Office. Cheques should be crossed "London City and Midland Bank."

Bankers :—London City and Midland Bank, Limited, 449, Strand, W.C.

* These form the Committee.

*W. C. Alexander, *Aubrey House, Kensington.*

Mrs. Alexander, *Aubrey House, Kensington.*

W. H. Allchin, M.D., 5, *Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.*

*Sir L. Alma-Tadema, R.A., 34, *Grove End Road, St. John's Wood.*

Archibald Anderson, 30, *Oxford Square, W.*

Miss Sara Anderson, 46, *Warwick Gardens, Kensington.*

*T. Armstrong, *The Abbot's House, Abbot's Langley, Herts.*

Rev. N. Green Armytage, *Boston, Lincs.*

Captain C. E. Arundel, 5, *Greek Street, Leeds.*

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C. R. Ashbee, *Magpie and Stump House, 37, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea.*

*Rt. Hon. Lord Avebury, *High Elms, Down, Beckenham, Kent.*

Commendatore Azzuri, *President of St. Luke's Academy, Rome.*

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 *Oliver Baker, *The Manor House, Over Whitacre, Coleshill, Warwickshire.*
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 Sidney H. Barnsley, *Sapperton, near Cirencester.*
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 Arthur Bayley, *St. Margaret's, Imperial Road, Great Malvern.*
 Somerset Beaumont, *Shere, Guildford.*
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 Miss Maud Beddington, 91, *Lancaster Gate, Hyde Park, W.*
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 Newton Bennett, *Oatlands, Warborough, Wallingford.*
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 Ernest Bewlay, 83, *Colmore Row, Birmingham.*
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 Walter B. Blaikie, *Constable & Co., Edinburgh.*
 *Detmar J. Blow, 9, *King's Bench Walk, Inner Temple.*
 Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, *Newbuildings Place, Southwater, near Horsham, Sussex.*
 Commendatore Giacomo Boni, *Architetto, Direzione Generale dell'Antichità e Belle Arti, Roma. (Hon. Mem.)*
 The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Bristol, *The Palace, Bristol.*

- James Bromley, *The Homestead, Junction Lane, Lathom, near Ormskirk.*
- *Rev. Stopford A. Brooke, 1, *Manchester Square, W.*
 Edwin Brough, *Wyndyate, near Scarborough.*
 W. S. Brough, *Leek, Staffordshire.*
 Wm. Anthony Brown, 75, *Cheyne Court, Chelsea, S.W.*
- *Rt. Hon. James Bryce, M.P., 54, *Portland Place, W.*
 J. S. Budgett, *Stoke Park, Guildford.*
 Miss E. Burden, 13, *Upper Woburn Place, W.C.*
 Lady Burne-Jones, *Rottingdean, Brighton.*
 Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., 9, *St. Paul's Studios, Hammersmith, W.*
 Sir Edward Henry Busk, 11, *Sussex Place, Regent's Park, N.W.*
- *Professor Ingram Bywater, 6, *Norham Gardens, Oxford.*
 Hall Caine, *Greeba Castle, Isle of Man.*
 G. F. Campfield, 4, *Æolian Villas, Tetherdown, Muswell Hill, N.*
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Arthur Wilson, 30, *Ashbourne Road, Derby.*

Mrs. Winkworth, *Holly Lodge, Campden Hill, W.*

*Charles C. Winmill, 114, *Main Road, Bexley Heath, Kent.*

Mrs. Charles C. Winmill, 114, *Main Road, Bexley Heath, Kent.*

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Stewart Young, 20, *Montagu Square, W.*

Mrs. Stewart Young, 20, *Montagu Square, W.*

Miss Harriot Yorke, 190, *Marylebone Road, N.W.*

J. R. Yorke, 2, *Chesham Street, W.*

Count Zorzi, *Venice* (Hon. Mem.)

If any Member finds his or her name incorrectly given, the Secretary will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following Members:—

Rev. A. Gerald Bowman.

Mrs. Clough.

A. G. Dryhurst.

Wickham Flower.

Mrs. Alfred Grundy.

Mrs. Hubbard.

Norman Maccoll.

F. D. Mocatta.

S. E. Spring Rice.

G. F. Watts, R.A.

T. T. Wing.

Hon. Sir R. S. Wright.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.
THE GENERAL MEETING OF
THE SOCIETY ; TWENTY-NINTH
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ; AND PAPER READ BY
THOMAS HARDY, ESQ. JUNE,
1906.

“DO NOT LET US TALK THEN
OF RESTORATION: THE THING
IS A LIE FROM BEGINNING TO
END.”—JOHN RUSKIN.

THACKERAY TURNER, SECRETARY,
20, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND,
LONDON.

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Members of the Society are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee as visitors.

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ANNUAL REPORT.

IN laying before the members of the Society the following notes on a few of the buildings which have received the consideration of the Committee during the past year, it would call attention to the large number of cases in which the Society is asked to give advice on practical questions concerning the treatment of ancient buildings. In addition, many persons, who are not members, ask the Society for its opinion as to whether works to particular buildings are such as are consistent with the preservation of their authentic character.

The large number of buildings visited gives some idea of the amount of work performed by the Society in this direction alone.

The Committee thinks our members should realise how deeply the Society is indebted to the many Architects who, every year, work for the Society, by surveying buildings at the request of the Committee upon payment of out-of-pocket expenses. Without these surveys the Committee would be almost powerless. The work is very arduous, takes up a large amount of time, and in

most cases involves much travelling, and a long written report illustrated by drawings or photographs.

The Committee takes this opportunity of expressing its deep sense of gratitude to those members who have given it such help, and to add that there are some architects, who are not members of the Society, but who nevertheless give it such assistance, and to whom it is equally grateful.

Aylesford Bridge, Kent.

In the report for 1901 (pages 12-14) reference was made to the proposed destruction of this beautiful bridge, and it was stated that the Society had prepared a scheme by which modern requirements could be met without destroying the bridge.

Unfortunately the local authorities seem to be bent upon the destruction of the bridge, but financial considerations stand in the way. And for this reason the bridge is safe for the present.

Delay is of course, in this case, favourable to the retention of the bridge, and the Committee hopes that better counsels will ultimately prevail with the local authorities, and one of the most interesting ancient bridges in Kent be preserved.

Ruins, Ayot St. Lawrence Church, Herts.

A report has been prepared upon the present condition of these ruins, which consist of a nave, with north aisle, a chancel aisle, and western tower. The plan of the building is somewhat uncommon and it is impossible, on

account of the missing portion of the east end and south side, to say with certainty whether the existing chancel aisle stood on the north or south side of the chancel. In all probability, however, the aisle stood on the north side of the chancel, as this allows of the nave extending from the chancel to the west end of the tower.

The building appears to have been completed about the end of the fourteenth century, and with the exception of two windows in the north wall of the tower and aisle, of late fifteenth century work, has no trace of any later alterations or additions.

The walls are built of flint-work with clunch dressings to the angles and openings. The east and south walls of the chancel are missing and the north wall leans inwards to a considerable extent. It is supported with modern brick buttresses on the south side as well as two tie-rods fixed across the aisle and secured to the outside of the walls. The opening into the aisle has a fine pointed arch with moulded jambs in good preservation. Only the jambs of the chancel arch remain, the arch and wall above are gone.

The ruins are most interesting and well worthy of preservation. Repairs are urgently necessary and the ivy with which the walls are thickly covered is displacing the facing and doing serious damage to the walls generally and will need to be destroyed.

The Rector and other local gentlemen are taking an interest in the preservation of the ruins and the Committee hopes the sum needed for carrying out the repairs will be forthcoming.

Auld Brig of Ayr, N.B.

In the last report (page 5), reference was made to the decision of the Town Council to rebuild the Auld Brig of Ayr. This decision was arrived at on the advice of engineers and others. After considering the various reports, the Committee came to the conclusion that it was possible to render the bridge structurally secure without rebuilding. A letter was sent to the Town Council suggesting a method by which this could be attained. The Society's letter was printed in the public press, and resulted in very strong expressions of opinion in favour of the preservation of the bridge. The Town Council, on the suggestion of the Earl of Rosebery and Mr. R. A. Oswald, the Convener of the County, reconsidered its decision and expressed its willingness to receive a report from the Society. Mr. John Carruthers, C.E., very kindly undertook to make the necessary survey, and his report entirely confirmed the opinion formed by the Committee. In addition, the bridge was visited by many engineers, and their unanimous opinion was that it could be made secure without rebuilding.

The report obtained by the Society was considered by the Town Council, and a consultation took place between that body and a deputation consisting of Mr. Oswald and other persons interested in the matter. It was arranged that a Committee should be formed to obtain the £10,000 which would be required to repair the bridge. In the event of this Committee succeeding, not later than the 1st of August, in raising the sum needed,

the Town Council will allow the Committee to carry out the works on the bridge under the supervision of a properly qualified engineer.

It is a matter of satisfaction to know that there is a possibility² of the bridge being preserved, but this is somewhat lessened by the fact that the preservation of a building of such historic and architectural value is dependent upon the raising of a sum of money.

Barrington Court, Somerset.

The National Trust has obtained an option to purchase, with a view to its preservation, this beautiful Tudor house, which is situated near Ilminster, and it has acquired, through this Society, a report setting forth the works of repair necessary to put the structure into a satisfactory condition.

One half of the house only is now habitable, the rest having been completely gutted of its internal fittings some eighty years ago.

An anonymous donor has offered £10,000 conditionally in order that the building may become the property of the National Trust, but the sum of £1,500 is required to carry out the necessary works of repair and to meet other small outgoings. Of this sum £500 has been subscribed.

The Committee is anxious that the sum needed shall be forthcoming, so that the Trust may feel justified in accepting the grave responsibility of becoming the owner of this magnificent building. Otherwise there is a danger of the house falling into ruin, and being eventually

pulled down. The exterior is so exceptionally fine that this would be a serious loss to the nation.

Branscombe Church, Devonshire.

We give a view of an exceptionally valuable unrestored church, as we think it will interest our members and possibly induce some of them to visit it. The building is in need of repair.

The Society is watching it for an opportunity to bring its influence to bear, when the time comes for taking in hand the work which must be done, sooner or later.

The Old Dutch House, Bristol.

There is a danger of this interesting and well-known house being destroyed, for the purposes of street widening, which, the Committee considers, could be effected without its removal.

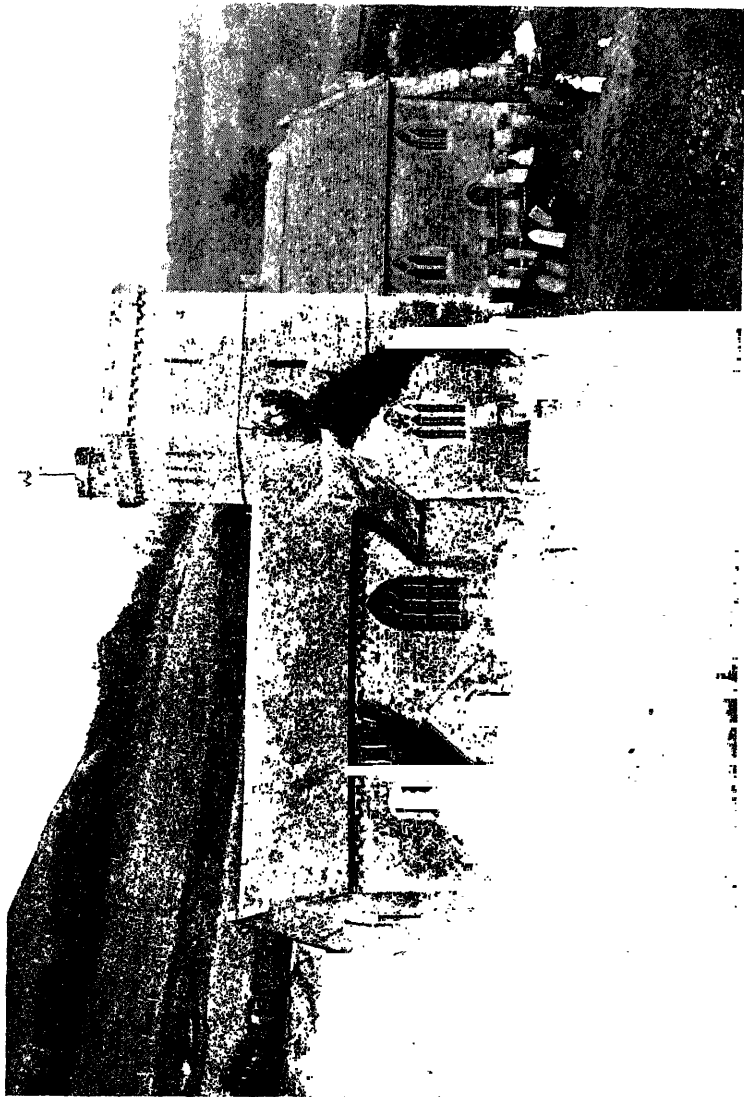
The following resolution was forwarded to the Town Council :

“The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings having long watched with interest and admiration the Old Dutch House at Bristol, and understanding that its fate is shortly to be decided, begs respectfully to urge the Corporation to let no consideration stand in the way of its preservation.”

The question of the preservation of the house was referred to a Committee of the Town Council for consideration, and a report upon the whole matter is shortly expected.

Roman Mosaics at Buckholt, nr. Birdlip, Gloucestershire.

The situation of these mosaics is on one of the



BRANSCOMBE CHURCH, DEVONSHIRE.

southern slopes of the Cotswold Hills, some distance from the road from Birdlip Hill to Cirencester, and but a short distance from Birdlip Hill itself, overlooking the reservoir.

The pavements were visited owing to a report having reached the Society to the effect that the mosaics showed signs of bad usage. They are enclosed in two rough stone buildings. The smaller of these buildings is in fairly good condition, save for one place in the thatch where the rain comes in, and the walls need buttressing near the entrance. The larger building requires re-thatching, and several new rafters are wanted. The rain comes in in several places and is doing considerable damage to the floors. Also the roof needs tying in as the span is too great to carry the roof as it now is, without purlins or ties of any kind.

There are several places in the mosaics which have been damaged recently. These need to be carefully cleaned, the tesserae collected and the spaces filled in with cement to prevent further damage.

From enquiries made by the Society it appears that the owner is anxious to hand the Roman Villa over to the Local Archæological Society, but the question of providing a caretaker is a difficulty. The Committee trusts this may be overcome as it is naturally anxious that this valuable Roman work should not be destroyed.

Catfield Church, Norfolk.

This building was visited on behalf of the Society, the Rector having appealed to the Committee for advice.

The Church consists of a chancel, nave, with north and south aisles, a south porch, and western tower. It appears to have been built early in the fifteenth century, with the exception of the tower, which is thirteenth century work. The walls are built of flint pointed on the outside and plastered on the inside. The roofs of the chancel and nave are modern, of poor construction, covered with slates. The aisles retain their original oak roofs with cast lead covering; the timbers are perished in places. The porch and tower also retain their old oak roofs and lead covering, but the timbers of the porch roof are somewhat dilapidated.

The walls of the chancel are in good condition, with the exception of a crack in the north wall. The east window retains its internal arch and jambs, but the original mullions and tracery and the outside jambs and arch are missing. The latter have been replaced with new stone, and the mullions and tracery with oak.

The interior surface of the north and south walls is divided into three bays by means of moulded stone shafts with caps and bases, supported on a stone bench, from which spring arches near the level of the roof. The walls retain their original windows in good preservation, one on the north and two on the south side with a priest's doorway between them. They are glazed with old glass in small quarries.

The walls of the chancel are covered with modern stucco, and the floor paved with good hand-made tiles with the exception of the Sanctuary, which is paved with modern tesellated tiles of various colours.

The nave arcades consist of five bays in excellent condition, the walls over them retaining the ancient plaster in a fair state of repair. Paintings are supposed to exist on the surface of the plaster, under the many coats of limewash.

The aisles contain the original and beautiful three-light windows in good preservation. Owing to the corrosion of the iron tie-bars, which are fixed at the springing of the head of the windows, portions of the mullions have burst off.

The seats and fittings are modern. The font is interesting, of fifteenth century date, in good condition.

The south porch with the parvis over has settled away from the aisle wall, the space having been filled in with flints and pointed.

The walls of the tower are well built of flint, pointed externally and plastered internally. They are in good repair with the exception of the south-east angle, where a circular stone staircase is formed in the thickness of the walls. It has weakened the angle to a considerable extent and the walls are cracked on both faces, from the ground up to the parapet. Iron tie-rods are inserted across the staircase, at various heights, to tie the angle together.

The tower arch is of fifteenth century work and is probably wider than the original thirteenth century opening, and has no doubt helped to weaken the angle. The south respond of the arch is broken and displaced, and the east wall of the tower is badly cracked and bulged from the floor up to the springing of the arch.

There is a two-light thirteenth century window in good preservation in the west wall at the ground floor level.

The ringing chamber at the first floor level has a small lancet window on the north, south and west faces, with brick jambs and arch. The east wall contains a built up opening into the nave. A fire-place, which appears to be contemporary with the tower, is formed in the north wall, of brickwork, with the flue complete.

The belfry contains five bells, four of which were cast in 1630. The frame is in good condition and stands free of the walls. Where the circular staircase cuts across the angle of the belfry the wall has been cut away to allow of a square frame, and wood lintels inserted to carry the wall above. The walls are pierced on each face with a two-light thirteenth century opening. Those on the north and south faces have lost the mullions and tracery.

The roof of the tower is of oak, in good repair.

The works essential for the preservation of the building were fully enumerated in the Report, and the Rector has informed the Society that he proposes to follow the suggestions it contains and to carry out the repairs as the money required is raised.

Glass, Chartres Cathedral.

The attention of the Committee was called to the damage which the glass in the windows of the south aisle has suffered from "cleaning," and to a report that the process was to be continued to the indescribably magnificent glass of the clerestory windows, which, except in

the apse, are almost intact and are gorgeous in colour and tone.

The Committee made enquiries and received information to the effect that, owing to want of materials and of personnel at Chartres, windows are sent to Paris every year to be "cleaned," and that it is intended to continue this. The Committee has expressed its strong opinion that the glass should not be removed from the building, for it has found by experience that the lead-work can, in most cases, be repaired piecemeal without removing the glass from the stonework. Moreover, ancient glass should not be cleaned, and much glass has been spoilt by the removal of the paint which was fired on to give the drawing.

It is to be hoped that the advice given by the Society will be adopted, for the destruction of the glass would be a loss to future generations which nothing could replace.

Compton Martin Church, Somerset.

In the report for 1902 (pages 11 and 12) it was stated that, chiefly owing to the action of the architect, Mr. T. G. Jackson, R.A., the Society had been refused permission to examine this building.

The following extracts from a letter written by a member of the Society, who is an architect, and who had seen the building before its "restoration," show that the Authorities acted wisely in withholding permission for the Society to inspect the building, for certainly, it would have been its duty to oppose the carrying out of

the greater portion of the works mentioned by our member, who writes :

"I have been staying lately at Weston-super-Mare, and, feeling anxious to know what had been done to the church, drove to Compton Martin. I was greatly displeased at finding that nearly everything I should have left undone had been done. The photograph I am enclosing will show the aggressively pointed joints of the rubble masonry, and give an idea of the way the freestone has been combed and scraped to create entirely new and even surfaces.

"The roof appears to be new but I am not quite sure as it has all been painted. The plastered panels are decorated with a vine pattern.

"All the glazing is new, the windows of the aisles and nave have 'Cathedral Glass' with a patterned border. The pulpit is new, a sham Norman thing with little polished marble shafts and shallow arches.

"The mullions and tracery have in several—I think I may say most—of the windows been renewed.

"Everything that could have been done to make the building look fresh, smart, and new, and to divest it of an appearance of antiquity, has been done.

"With the exception of the new tracery, etc., to the windows and a freshening up, tooling and pointing the porch, very little has been done to the exterior."

Croydon Palace Chapel, Surrey.

A description of this building was given in the last report (pages 27-29).

When the Society was asked to superintend the necessary repairs, the foundations, *i.e.*, the original flint walls, although not very good were sufficient for the work required of them. The roof, with the exception of the method of supporting the ceiling joists, was satisfactory.

The east and west walls, with minor repairs, would carry themselves. The rest of the brickwork and stonework, including the buttresses in their then state, was constructionally useless.

Work was begun with the most easterly bay. The outside having been already securely shored, the floor was propped from the basement, and the tie-beam supported from the floor. A small piece of original post still partly attached to the curved brace was removed, and the chase in which the post had stood and the loose interior of the buttress behind, were cleared of rubbish and thoroughly cleaned out. Tothing was cut in the brickwork on each side, and at the bottom a heavy stone slab was bonded across. Upon this, and dowelled into it, a light angle iron skeleton framework 9in. by 7in. was placed, the upper end carrying a stout sheet-iron plate was screwed to the underside of tie wall plate. Hoop-iron was at intervals twisted round the skeleton members of the stanchion to make bonds into the sides of the chase, and into the buttress behind. Three heavy wrought-iron bonds were carried round the tops of the frames, the ends attached to the tie-beam and curved brace by means of bolts passing completely through the brace and beam. The front of the chase was then boarded, a piece at a time, and having been thoroughly wetted from a hose, fine cement concrete was rammed all round the members of the iron frame into the sides of the chase, and into the hollow of the buttress behind. This was carried up to the underside of the iron plate attached to the wall plate, following the line of the back

of the curved brace and forming a solid abutment for it. The final tightening of the concrete under the plate was done by driving pieces of wet tiles into the fresh concrete. Two bolts with fish-tail ends were bedded in the concrete to take the iron framing, to be described.

The wall under the ends of all the other tie-beams was dealt with in a similar manner, with the exception of the two places in which the original oak posts remained. The latter were solidly underpinned, and firmly connected to the brickwork by hoop-iron bonds. The tie-beams now resting upon solid work, it was necessary to take the weight of the roof and wall plates off the heads of the stone windows. This was done by carrying heavy T irons from tie-beam to tie-beam on top of the wall plates, to which the flanges of the T irons were then screwed.

The ends of the ceiling joists, as before noticed, needed attention. They were held in position in the flimsiest manner and the ceiling was very shaky. Oak beams were carried across the back of the ceiling joists with their ends resting on the tie-beams, and connected together by iron plates. Each ceiling joist was then firmly attached by means of short lengths of angle irons.

To stiffen the pieces of walling beneath the windows, braced channel iron frames were bolted to the fish-tail bolts described above. The bulging walls were then bolted to the channel iron framing by means of $\frac{3}{4}$ in. copper bolts with dished copper washers on the outside.

At the same time, minor repairs were carried on. All the walls were made sound by bonding across all cracks

and weak corners with bands of hand-made roof tiles bedded in cement and sand.

The large seven-light east window, from its size and the shakiness of the stonework, needed special treatment, and as described below was so braced up with an iron framework as to relieve the stonework from carrying weight. The tinted Cathedral glass was removed and the mullions were temporarily strutted, and the saddle bars, which had wasted nearly away and were quite loose, were taken out. Wrought-iron frames of $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{3}{8}$ in. iron were made with $\frac{1}{2}$ in. saddle bars rivetted through at every lead line (about 7 in. apart). $\frac{1}{2}$ in. holes were then drilled in the sides of the mullions, which were so soft that only a joiner bit was required, short lengths of lead pipe were fitted into these, the frames put into position one at a time and screwed through into these lead plugs. All the stonework was then made good with hydraulic lime mortar applied in successive thin layers, and several coats of limewash made of lime slaked in boiling water were applied. This was also done to the rest of the stonework.

The side windows were reglazed with the old glass, which was good; the east window was glazed with new crown glass in place of the tinted Cathedral glass taken out.

The deal panelling of the east end previously grained was painted, the upper part of walls and the ceiling were cleaned and given two coats Duresco.

The Authorities employed Mr. Archibald Dickie as their architect. The Society found him in entire

sympathy with us, and he cordially welcomed our assistance, and agreed to an arrangement by which one of our professional members went to reside at Croydon, and superintended the whole of the work hour by hour. The work was carried out by Mr. David Waller, builder, of Croydon, without a contract beyond one for labour and materials.

Edenbridge Church, Kent.

The church at Edenbridge has suffered severely in times past from "restoration," and contains all the unpleasantness of varnished deal benches and choir stalls, organ case, encaustic tiles, floor gratings, gas fittings, ecclesiastical glass, paint and upholstery. In addition all the windows are modern Gothic work with the exception of four, and those in the tower.

Forget these "restorations," and you have a noble building. The walls are massive and of a beautifully varied surface. The tower and shingled spire with its one handed clock carry out the general characteristic of wealth of material. The fourteenth century roofs are very little restored as far as one can see, and are covered with stone slates, excepting the gutter side of the nave roof, which is tiled.

The effect is so impressive that the poor modern work is forgotten and this is a very strong reason for the maintenance of what remains of the original building.

The Committee had some correspondence with the Vicar, who very kindly allowed the Society to see the

architect's report. The report contained several recommendations with which the Committee could not agree, and it made various suggestions.

A professional member of the Society who lives in the neighbourhood, visited the building on behalf of the Society, and he promised to give a donation in the event of the work being carried out in accordance with the Society's suggestions.

At a later date he again visited the building, and reports that the south wall has been shored up, and the east end of the south aisle, which contained the most valuable window in the church, has been ruthlessly destroyed, and was being rebuilt as a specimen of the worst type of "restoration."

The Committee fears the final result will be to leave the building with but little of the interest it once possessed.

Fakenham Church Tower, Norfolk.

The Committee learnt that it was proposed to carry out some works to this large and lofty tower, and it offered the Authorities a report upon the building, which was accepted.

The tower is of fifteenth century date, and stands at the west end of the church. The walls are built of flintwork with stone dressings, buttresses, etc.

The arch to the nave is very lofty and occupies the full width of the tower. The west window, and the doorway underneath, are contained in a similar arch.

The window is of six lights with a large centre mullion and smaller intermediate ones.

There is a circular stone staircase in the north wall which slightly projects beyond the outside face of the wall and immediately behind the jamb of the west window.

There is a stone groined vault over the ground floor, at the level of the ringing chamber, with stone ribs and bosses arranged around a square opening in the centre.

The buttresses at the external angles are large and ornamented on the face with panels filled with knapped flints.

The ringing chamber has a good sized window on each face of the tower, with a brick arch over, filled with pierced stonework on the outside. A modern clock stands at this level, with faces on the west and south, about four feet above the head of window.

The belfry has a three-light window on each face with a stone transom and pointed arch filled with tracery. There is a fairly heavy peal of eight bells in excellent condition, hung on a massive oak frame, dated 1747.

The roof is of oak, in good repair, and covered with cast lead dated 1817.

The angle buttresses finish immediately underneath the stone parapet and support rather stumpy pinnacles at the four angles of the tower. An iron weather vane is fixed on each pinnacle and connected to a copper rope lightning conductor, carried down the north face of the tower and into the ground.

The general condition of the fabric is sound and in

good preservation, with the exception of the west window, the newel staircase and portions of the walls immediately over the windows of the ringing chamber.

The repairs necessary for putting the tower into a proper structural condition were enumerated in the report and full details given.

The Rector has informed the Society that the Authorities were greatly helped by the report and that they had obtained a further report from the Diocesan Architect, and, based upon the two reports, they have obtained estimates for carrying out the repairs under the Diocesan Architect.

It is only right to point out that this is not a course which the Committee considers likely to lead to success, and it is convinced, from all experience, that not only is it cheaper to carry out the work under a schedule of prices, instead of by contract, but it results in the preservation of far more original work.

Flamstead Church, Herts.

The work of repairing the fine old Norman tower of this church, which was in a most critical condition, has been successfully accomplished. The walls which are of considerable thickness, and built of flint with clunch dressings to the angles and openings, were cracked and bulged to a great extent. Extreme caution had to be exercised in dealing with them, especially on account of their disintegrated condition. The plaster on the exterior surface had perished, and allowed the wet to penetrate into the walls.

The work which has been carried out in accordance with the advice given by the Society, practically leaves the external appearance of the tower unaltered, as the greater portion of the strengthening work has been carried out from the interior.

Frettenham Church, Norfolk.

There is every probability of this church being shortly "restored."

It has been visited on behalf of the Society, and was found to be, with the exception of a modern chancel, a fine example of fourteenth century building, the tower only being somewhat later.

The church consists of a chancel, nave with north and south aisle, south porch and western tower.

The nave arcades consist of three bays with well proportioned arches. The piers have clustered shafts with finely moulded caps and bases. The windows in the aisles are quite unrestored, being very fine specimens of fourteenth century design and workmanship, but the glass is modern.

The roofs are of modern construction, simple and inoffensive. It is proposed to remove these roofs, which could be easily repaired, and to replace them with roofs of pitch pine.

The walls are in need of attention as there are unmistakable signs of settlement, and some bad cracks, and the flintwork is loose and displaced in places.

The bell frame is also in a bad condition and requires strengthening and careful repair.

A copy of the Society's report has been sent to the Rector, and the Committee hopes this will result in the works of repair to the fabric being undertaken before new roofs are provided.

Unfortunately a heating apparatus has already been constructed with which, it is understood, dissatisfaction has been expressed.

Hospital of St. John the Baptist, High Wycombe, Bucks.

At the request of the Vicar, conveyed through the National Trust, this building has been visited by the Society.

The remains consist of two arcades, three bays long, forming the nave. The west aisle has entirely gone, as well as the south wall, but the north wall stands for a considerable height, and the east wall of the east aisle, three or four feet high. The east wall returns eastwards opposite the third bay, and forms what was the north wall of the Chapel. It has two angle buttresses at its east end, an early English lancet window about the middle, with a decorated window to the east of the lancet, and a space, where a decorated window was, to the left of it.

Each arcade has two arches remaining at its northern end. The six columns are alternately round and octagonal, placed so that a round one comes opposite an octagonal one, and the capitals are well carved, the work being of late Norman times.

It is interesting to note that the ancient whitewash has in places completely preserved the surface of the

stone, and many of the stones show the tooling marks as perfect as when first cut.

The whole of the remains are a most interesting example of domestic work of the period. The tops of the arcade walls were coped with a wood roof covered with hand-made tiles, but unfortunately the woodwork has decayed and part of it has fallen, and the remainder of it is likely to fall. The earth has been piled high against the north wall of the chapel, referred to as retaining the early English and Decorated windows, and trees are growing far too close to the building in many places. Ivy also is more or less rampant and needs to be cleared away.

The tops of the walls require recoping, and some careful repairs are needed to parts of the walls. A preservative should also be applied where the stone is decaying.

The Committee trusts that the funds necessary for carrying out the protective works needed will be forthcoming, as the remains are well worthy of preservation. We may add that the building was fully described and illustrated by Mr. John Parker, F.S.A., and its history given, in *Archæologia* Vol. 48.

St. Mary's Church, Hitchin, Herts.

The Church of St. Mary Hitchin is (with the exception of St. Albans Abbey) the largest in the county. It consists of a fifteenth century chancel with north and south aisles, a fourteenth century nave also with north and south aisles, north and south porches of fifteenth century date, and a western tower, parts of which are

of Norman work, although the tower arch, the external buttresses, and the belfry stage appear to have been built late in the fourteenth century.

The nave and chancel have modern roofs, the former covered with slates and the latter with cast lead. The aisle roofs, to both nave and chancel, retain their old oak timbers with the exception of that on the south aisle of the chancel, which has lately been reconstructed. They are covered with cast lead and are in good repair. The bells have lately been rehung on a steel frame, and one bell at least has been mutilated in the process, by having its cannons cut off.

The building was surveyed by the Society at the request of the Churchwardens. The structural condition of the fabric appears to be sound, the chief question being the treatment of the external surfaces of the walls generally.

The whole of the exterior of the building is covered with plaster composed of Roman cement and sand, and lined to imitate masonry. Not only have the flat surfaces of the walls been so treated, but all the windows, string courses, and even the carved work, are covered with a thin coating which averages from an eighth of an inch to half an inch in thickness. Many of the mouldings have been wholly reproduced in the same material.

So far as can be gathered the work was done about one hundred years ago, and with the exception of portions of the surfaces, where the cement has been used in large and probably thick masses, the general condition is sound and little affected by the weather.

The Society recommended that the cement on the smaller surfaces where it has perished should be carefully repaired with blue lias lime mortar.

In dealing with the large surfaces such as occur on the tower, the removal of the cement covering, which is cracked and bulged away from the old walls, was recommended, and the making good of all loose portions of the flint and other facing, the raking out of the old mortar and repointing the walls with blue lias lime mortar finished flush with the face of the walls.

The Society expressed the opinion that where the cement is sound, its removal could not be effected without causing serious injury, and that in the case of the windows, where a very thin coating has been most skilfully applied, it would be next to impossible to remove it.

As the appearance of the new and old plaster would be patchy and unpleasant, the advice was given that the whole surface should be treated with a wash of lime and Hydrate of Barium, slightly toned in colour, which would soon weather and greatly help to protect the building.

Hough Church, Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Reference was made to this building in the last report (pages 45-47), and it was then stated that the Society's recommendations for dealing with the structure were being considered by the Authorities concerned.

The Committee has much pleasure in reporting that it was decided to adopt the Society's advice. The work is

now in progress, but owing to lack of funds, only the most important portions can be undertaken.

The walls of the nave, which were cracked in many places, have been repaired by cutting out the cracks and bonding across them with hard materials.

The nave roof, which has good moulded and carved timbers, has been repaired and strengthened, the lead with which the roof was covered being recast and relaid, and the gutters behind the parapets, which were formerly laid on sand, have been constructed with deal, laid to proper falls to the existing outlets.

The work of repairing the walls of the Saxon tower, with its projecting circular staircase, is now in hand, as well as the strengthening and repairing of the bell frame.

Local workmen are being employed, under the personal direction of the architect on the spot, in consultation with the Society.

Colfe's Almshouses, Lewisham.

Since the issue of the last report a public enquiry has been held by the Charity Commissioners, which, the Committee hopes, will lead to the preservation of these interesting buildings.

Madley Church, Hereford.

The large and beautiful church at Madley was visited at the request of the Vicar and a detailed report provided.

The church consists of a chancel, nave, north and

south aisles, with a chapel on the south side of the south aisle, and a north porch. A massive tower occupies the westernmost bay of the nave.

The portion now used as the north porch appears to be the only part of the original Norman church remaining, the greater portion of the existing building having been erected during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

The church generally is in a good state of preservation. Works of underpinning are necessary and some pointing is required, but the chief question is the repair and construction of surface channels around the building to carry away the rainwater.

The Vicar has informed the Committee that he values the report highly and will do his best to get it carried out but that there will be a difficulty in obtaining the funds required.

The Gate House, Maidstone, Kent.

Reference was made to this building in the reports for 1902 (pages 28 and 29) and 1903 (pages 26 and 27).

There was a danger of the building being destroyed, but the Committee is glad to be able to report that the Gate House is to be preserved by the Corporation. This is largely the result of the action of local people who were interested in the welfare of the building.

Tower and Spire, Norwich Cathedral.

Fears having been expressed as to the condition of the tower and spire of Norwich Cathedral, the

Committee caused an inspection to be made. It was found that with the exception of some slight cracks in the walls and vaulting of the staircase in the south-west turret, and signs of movement in the stone buttresses which strengthen the lower portion of the spire at the angles of the octagon, the structure was in a fairly satisfactory condition.

On the whole the stonework appears sound and free from decay. The spire is built of Barnack stone, but in places Caen or other soft stone occurs, and these have perished on the surface.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to the Committee that it should have been able to give a reassuring report to those who feared for the stability of the structure.

Church of St. Mary Coslany, Norwich.

An effort is being made to raise funds to render this building, which is at present disused, sound and weatherproof. It has unfortunately fallen into a sad state of dilapidation.

: The church consists of a chancel, nave, north and south transepts, south porch and western tower. The whole building is a fine example of fifteenth century workmanship, with the exception of the round tower, which evidently belonged to an earlier building of the twelfth or thirteenth century.

The Society furnished a report setting forth the works of repair essential for the preservation of the building, the approximate cost being £800.

Church of St. Peter Hungate, Norwich.

In the last report (pages 53 and 54) it was stated that an effort was being made to raise the funds necessary to repair this building.

It is a matter of keen satisfaction to the Committee to be in a position to report that the effort made was successful largely owing to the generosity of a member of the Society, who provided a considerable proportion of the sum needed.

The works of repair are now practically completed.

The building is a most interesting specimen of fifteenth century workmanship. It consists of a chancel (to which, unfortunately, a modern brick vestry has been added on the north side), nave, with north and south transepts, western tower, and south porch.

The church had unfortunately fallen into a most dilapidated condition.

The roof of the chancel was in a very bad state, most of the tiles on the north side were missing and the timbers exposed to the weather. It was constructed with oak rafters framed flat, with a collar near the apex and struts under. There were no tie-beams, and the thrust of the rafters had displaced the oak wall plates, as well as the outer half of the walls, for some distance down. On the removal of the roof it was found necessary to rebuild the displaced flint facing of both the walls, as well as to reset the heads and tracery of the windows, which had been pushed out with the walls. The wall plate on the north side had rotted away at the east end

and had to be made good with a new portion before refixing.

The roof has been reconstructed with the old rafters framed together on oak purlins strutted from two new tie-beams, with a good camber and well secured to the wall plates. The old tiles have been carefully refixed on rent oak battens, and additional old hand-made tiles were obtained to replace those missing — the space between the rafters being ceiled with oak boards.

The walls have been repaired and bonded together where cracked at the angles and the exterior surface repointed with blue lias lime and sharp sand, finished flush with the general surface. The modern vestry on the north side has been removed and the doorway built up. Most of the glass in the windows had been destroyed by stone throwing. Sufficient old crown glass has been obtained to replace the missing portions and the lights have been releaded and fixed in a similar manner to the old. Portions of stained glass which occurred in the borders of the lights have been carefully retained.

The east window has been reglazed with some very fine old stained glass, after being carefully releaded. This glass was removed, when the building was disused, and stored away by the Rector for safety.

The ground around the chancel has been lowered to its original level in order to prevent the damp soaking through above the floor level.

The work of making good the walls of the nave and transepts has proved more extensive than could be

judged from their general appearance. The east and west walls of the north transept were badly cracked from the ground upwards, and the weather had penetrated behind the flint facing and detached portions. It was found necessary to renew most of the west wall, from the interior to the back of the flint facing. This has been done and the old and new work well bonded together. The staircase to the roodloft, which occurs in the east wall on the north side of the chancel arch, had been filled in at some previous time in order to strengthen the fabric. Unfortunately the filling in was not bonded to the old work and was of little service. It was found necessary to renew it in a solid manner, in order to obtain as much abutment for the chancel arch as possible. Two large windows occupy most of the wall on the north and east of transept. Considerable movement had occurred in both the walls, owing to their extreme thinness, and great care had to be exercised in dealing with them. The buttresses at the angles, which were displaced and cracked away from the walls, have been rebonded in a solid manner and the bulged portions of the flint facing reset.

The south transept was dealt with in a similar manner as well as the wall over the chancel arch.

The flint facing of the transepts and the east wall have been repaired and repointed with blue lias lime and sharp sand, finished flush with the surface, in order to prevent the wet from penetrating.

The walls of the nave were in a somewhat better condition. The interior stone arches over the windows

were found to be displaced and in danger of falling. They have been carefully reset and grouted together in a solid manner. The buttresses on the north and south sides, where cracked and bulged away from the walls, have been made good and rebonded to the solid portions of the walls, and the general surface of the walls seen to.

The buttresses and flint facing of the porch were much displaced, as well as the south wall of the tower. The bulged portions have been reset and the walls, where necessary, rebonded together in a solid manner.

In dealing with the tower the walls were found to be of earlier work than the general building, and refaced with flint at some period, probably in 1460, when the church was rebuilt.

The stone weathering on the roof of the projecting turret staircase in the south-west angle of the nave was loose and allowed the wet to penetrate. It has been removed, and the loose and perished walling underneath replaced with a solid bed of concrete, on which the stone weathering has been refixed.

A vertical straight joint occurred in the west wall of the nave, close against the north side of the tower, from the ground upwards, probably the junction of the later work with the earlier work of the tower. It has been bonded together by cutting away portions of the wall on each side of the straight joint and bonding together in a solid manner.

The roof timbers of the nave and transepts were found, on further examination, to have suffered consider-

ably through the wet penetrating. The apex and feet of the principals were mostly affected, as well as the ends of the hammer beams. The decayed portions have been cut away, and made good by splicing new portions to the solid parts, and well bolting them together. Where the ends of the hammer beams had dropped and were held up, with iron straps, to the principals, it was found possible to raise them into position by means of a "jack," after which a $\frac{3}{4}$ " bolt was fixed through the principal and the end of the hammer beam, and tightened together. On raising the hammer beams into a level position the back was drawn away from the wall. The space has been filled up with oak fixed in a solid manner to the backs of hammer beams.

The rafters were found to be sound and well framed on the top of the purlins and ridge; the feet rested on the cornice at the head of the wall, without any direct bearing on the walls. Wall plates have been inserted behind the cornice on which the rafters have been fixed, and the cornice, where displaced, has been repaired and refixed in its original position. The oak boarding between the rafters was perished and displaced in places. It has been refixed and repaired where necessary, with new boarding of a similar nature.

The lead was laid on oak boards spaced apart on the top of the rafters. In the case of the transepts it was possible to repair most of the cast lead, which has been relaid on deal boarding fixed on the top of the rafters. The lead of the nave was found beyond repair, it has been recast to an average weight of seven pounds to the

super foot, and relaid in a thorough manner on deal boarding fixed on the top of rafters.

The roofs of the transepts on the east side project well beyond the face of the wall and did not call for eaves gutters, as in the case of the west sides and the nave, where the projection is slight and necessitated eaves gutters and down pipes.

The porch roof has been repaired and the timbers strengthened, the lead recast and relaid on deal boards.

The boarded floors of the nave were found to be badly perished from want of ventilation. On their removal the ground was excavated, and a bed of concrete, laid on top of dry rubbish, was inserted to prevent the damp rising, after which new floors were provided and ventilated by means of air gratings and pipes through the walls. As in the case of the chancel, most of the glass in the windows was broken and had to be renewed. Hopper casements have been provided for ventilation and all made sound and weatherproof.

The interior plaster, which was badly perished in places, has been repaired and the surface cleaned and colour-washed throughout.

The oakwork of the roofs was thickly coated with dust, which had penetrated into and discoloured the oak. It has been well brushed down and the natural surface of the oak brought to light. The angels at the ends of the hammer beams are beautifully carved on the solid oak and painted a light colour to make them more prominent.

The repairs have been carried out by local workmen under the personal direction of the architect on the spot, in consultation with the Society.

Nottingham Castle.

In the year 1898 a scheme was prepared for "restoring" the ancient gateway of Nottingham Castle which, if carried out, would have entirely robbed the building of the interest it now possesses.

A short time since the Committee learnt that the Corporation proposed to undertake some works to the gateway, and it therefore offered a report upon the building, and the offer was accepted.

The gateway consists of two circular faced towers flanking the entrance archway, leading up to which is the approach. A fine pointed arch, probably built in the fourteenth century, spans a portion of the ditch, beyond the space which was occupied by the drawbridge and which is at present arched over with a semi-circular arch. The ditch in front of the right hand tower is filled up level with the roadway and forms the present entrance through the gateway.

The walls vary in thickness and are faced with local sandstone, which has perished considerably on the upper portions of the towers. A hard lime stone has been used for the dressings of the openings and arches, most of which are in good preservation.

In dealing with the repair of the fabric great care will have to be taken in order to preserve all the ancient work that now exists. The works considered to be essential for the preservation of the building were fully enumerated in the report, and the application of a solution, of lime and baryta, was recommended for the preservation of the ancient facing stones where decayed.

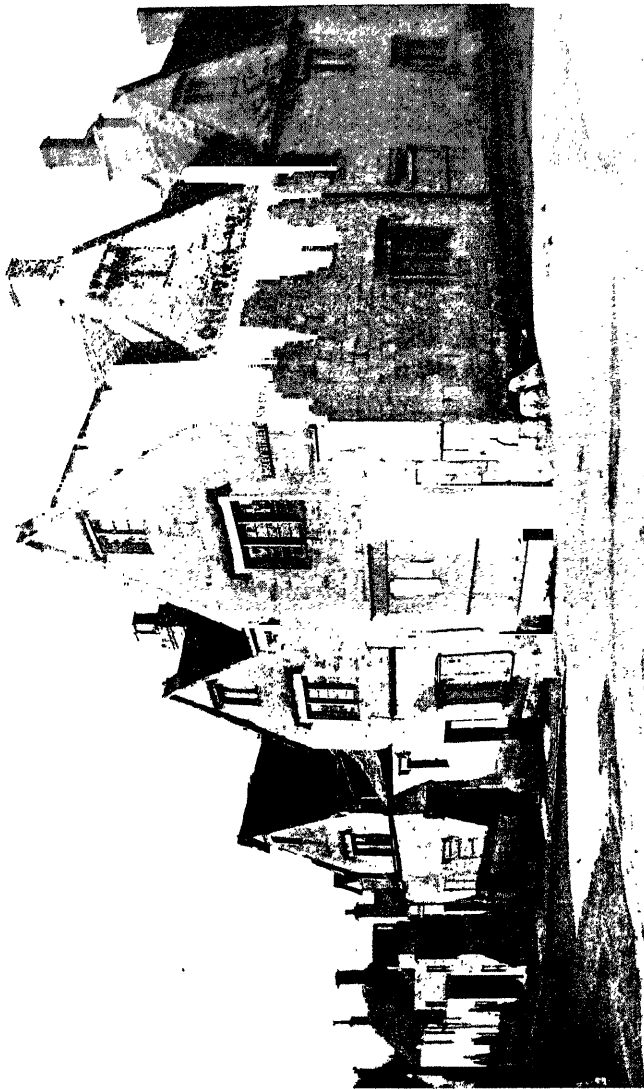


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LONDON HOUSE, PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The Town Council has placed the Society's report in the hands of the City architect, who is to superintend the works of repair, and the Committee therefore hopes its advice will be followed.

London House, Painswick, Gloucestershire.

We give a view of this house, which occupies an important site at the crossing of the two main roads (from Gloucester and Cheltenham), and is a piece of good Cotswold work with five gables. It was occupied and used as a shop until a few years ago, but since then it has been vacant, and part of it is rapidly becoming ruinous. Its loss would be a serious matter, as it would spoil the entrance to the village on that side, and of the two main streets, which at present consist entirely of good stone houses.

Although the Committee fully realises the difference in its position when dealing with buildings which are public, or semi-public property, and those which are private property, it decided upon venturing to appeal to the owner to have the house put into a proper structural condition, or if that was impossible, to repair the roof so as to preserve the building from ruin. No reply has been received, but it may be that the Committee's appeal will result in some repairs being undertaken.

Pebworth Church, Gloucestershire.

The Vicar of Pebworth expressed a desire to have the Society's advice as to the treatment of his church, and the building was therefore visited and a report supplied.

The church consists of a western tower of fifteenth century date, a nave of the fourteenth century, or earlier, with a south aisle and its arcade added in the fifteenth century, and a chancel of the fifteenth century or possibly earlier, in which, however, later windows appear to have been inserted.

The nave roof is high pitched, and covered half with stone slates and half with Broseley tiles. The ceiling has the section of a pointed arch: it is divided into plastered and whitewashed panels by moulded oak ribs which appear to have been painted, and it has moulded tie-beams.

The chancel roof is also high pitched, and covered with Broseley tiles: the ceiling has the section of a low segmental arch with two tie-beams cased in stained deal: the western part of the roof is plain plaster, the eastern bay is ceiled with oak boards laid east and west, and the joints covered with moulded fillets, which were probably put there in the seventeenth century. The aisle roof is of flat pitch with a parapet and is covered with lead. It is internally divided into plaster panels like the nave ceiling. The walls retain the ancient plaster nearly all over, and most of it is in good condition.

The pews are modern and there is a stained deal gallery at the west end of the Church.

Generally speaking the Church is in good condition and nothing very serious in the way of repairs appears necessary, although the roofs may be found to be decayed upon closer examination. Of course works of repair which every building needs from time to time

require to be undertaken, and much can be done to make the building better fitted for use than it is at present, without detracting from its authentic character. These works were fully set forth in the report, for which the Vicar has thanked the Society.

Plumtree Church Tower, Notts.

This interesting tower is being rebuilt, in spite of the efforts made by the Society. It was originally built in Norman times, the belfry stage having apparently been added to the Norman tower in the fourteenth century.

As the result of an appeal for advice the tower was inspected on behalf of the Society, when it was found that its upper portion had already been taken down.

The Committee was able to report that although the building would require careful treatment, there was no insuperable difficulty in repairing it. Moreover, the Committee undertook to arrange that skilled workmen, under proper supervision, should be forthcoming, but the custodians apparently thought this would be too much responsibility for them, and thus a valuable ancient building has been lost, for of course, when it has been rebuilt it will cease to be the work of the mediæval builders, and will practically become a modern erection.

St. Augustine's Priory, Rye, Sussex.

Reference was made to this building in the report for 1894 (pages 45 and 46), and it was surveyed by the Society in 1904. Some works have recently been

carried out at the building, and the Society has made a further inspection. The Committee is glad to be able to report that, taken generally, the works, so far as they have gone, carry out the principles of the Society, but it regrets the removal of the two tie-beams from the east and west ends of the building, and trusts it may be found possible to re-use them in the building.

The Committee has made some suggestions for works which are required for fitting the building for use.

Scremby Church, Lincolnshire.

The repair of this building has been undertaken during the past year by a local builder, who has carried out the work advised in the Society's report, to the best of his ability. The work consisted in repairing some cracks in the walls and repointing the surface where defective, as well as repairs to the leadwork of roof. The interior of the walls and ceiling have been treated with limewash toned with colour to a warm white, and benches have been provided for the Choir in the chancel, of English oak, in character with the other fittings.

Silk Willoughby Church, Lincs.

The Committee was appealed to for advice as to whether the works proposed to be carried out at this building were such as the Society could recommend, and the church was visited by a representative, with the consent of the Rector.

It was found that the works proposed were almost wholly

in opposition to the principles of the Society. For example, the nave now has a roof of oak, which is in fair condition, with the exception of one bay, which has sunk somewhat at the ridge. The timbers are plain and massive and are covered with oak boarding and cast lead. The roofs of the aisles are somewhat similar in construction and condition. They are doubtless in need of repair, but there would be no difficulty in putting them into a good structural condition. But the architect proposes that the roofs, which are probably 200 years old, and of historical interest, should be destroyed and new roofs take their place, that to the nave being high pitched.

The Society estimates that the works necessary for the preservation of the building would cost approximately £650, while the architect estimates the cost of carrying his scheme into effect at £2,810!! It is needless to add more.

The Committee considers this to be one of the worst cases of "restoration" which has come before the Society for many years, and it hopes the large sum asked for will not be obtained.

Mediæval Hall, Simnel Street, Southampton.

In the reports for 1900 (pages 41-44) and 1904 (pages 61 and 62) this building was referred to, and in the latter report it was stated that probably the best thing that could happen would be for the crypt to be built over.

The Committee has received an interesting report from a local member, to the effect that an artisan

dwelling has been built over the crypt, and that the new building line of Simnel Street has been arranged so that the street does not pass over the crypt, as at one time proposed. A better line for the street has thus been gained and a danger to the future preservation of the building avoided.

The whole of the stone vaulting was supported by strong centering during the progress of the work, and it appears to have sustained no damage whatever.

During the work a further window was discovered, evidently of the same period, smaller in structure and nearer to the existing doorway.

An interesting discovery of a winding stone staircase has also been made near the north-west corner. This has been opened out, and it led into the crypt by a circular curve, and there are now traces in the wall of a circular arch leading down into another passage.

The Committee is deeply grateful to the Corporation for having preserved the crypt, and it is glad to find a stronger feeling existing in Southampton in favour of the preservation of the ancient buildings of the City.

Stanground Church, nr. Peterborough.

As in many other cases, the Vicar of Stanground appealed to the Society for advice. The church appears to have been built early in the thirteenth century, and with the exception of the roofs and the south porch, which are modern, it has to a large extent escaped restoration. The building consists of a chancel, with the original sacristy on the north side, used as a vestry,

a nave with north and south aisles, a south porch, and a western tower and spire.

The arcades of the nave are particularly fine. The clerestory appears to have been added in the fifteenth century. The modern roof, of pitch pine, to the nave, is extremely ugly, and unfortunately destroys the fine appearance of the whole interior.

The fabric generally, is in good repair, with the exception of the tower and spire, which are in a serious condition and cracked in many places. The works of repair would have to be carried out with the greatest care and skill.

The bells and bell frame also call for very special attention owing to the limited space in the belfry.

The Vicar has informed the Society that he read the report to the parish vestry and was instructed to thank the Society. He adds that there was a general agreement that the course recommended by the Society, and not any less thorough treatment, ought to be adopted, but he fears that nothing more can be done at present than begin the task of raising the £550, which is the estimated cost of the work.

The Committee fears that this will take some time as the parish is a very poor one. This is the more to be regretted as the tower and spire are in urgent need of attention.

Standing Stones of Stenness, Orkney, N.B.

The condition of the stone circle at Stenness has been the subject of some concern to those anxious for its

preservation. With the consent of the owner, and by arrangement with Mr. Cathcart Wason, M.P., the Society surveyed the stones and furnished a report upon them. Various works of support are necessary and these were fully described.

The Committee understands that a local Committee was formed to carry out the suggestions made in the report, and that a report is to be made by an inspector on behalf of the Office of Works.

A copy of the Society's report on the stones has been sent to the First Commissioner of Works, and he has replied that he warmly appreciates the Society's action, and attaches the greatest value to the views expressed in the report.

The Church House, Theydon Garnon, Essex.

Situated in the churchyard, facing the west end of the church, this building is of considerable interest. The attention of the Committee was called to its dilapidated condition, and it was surveyed on behalf of the Society.

The front of the cottage, facing the churchyard, retains its old plaster covering, with diaper patterns, in fair preservation. The ends and back of the building are covered with deal weather boarding, very substantial and in sound condition. The front over the ground floor is corbelled out and carried on the ends of the beams and joists of the first floor.

The inside of the walls are plastered on laths, with a space between the outer plaster and boarding.

The roof is of oak, of steep pitch, covered with hand-made tiles and ceiled with plaster on the underside at the level of the tie-beams.

Although appearing dilapidated, the general condition of the fabric is sound. Ivy is growing on the south-west and south-east angles of the building and over the roof, through which it has penetrated, displacing the tiling. It would be necessary to destroy the ivy.

The plaster front would require very careful treatment, the roof stripped and the tiles rehung and the wooden eaves gutters and down pipes renewed. Other small works would be needed to make the cottage better fitted for habitation, but the cost of the essential works of repair is estimated at £100. Unfortunately, however, there are difficulties in the way of the cottage being repaired, but the Committee hopes that these may be overcome, for it would be a serious loss if the building were allowed to fall into ruin.

Uttoxeter Church Tower, Staffordshire.

Unfortunately the Society was not asked for advice in this case before the bells, bell frame, and supporting beams, had been removed in order that the bells might be rehung in a new iron frame supported on steel girders.

The beams were found lying in the churchyard, great massive balks of timber twenty inches in depth, and twelve inches in width. The main beams had been cut in two in order to remove them the more easily. The bells had been taken away to the foundry.

Undoubtedly the removal of the old beams and bell frame was quite unnecessary and unjustifiable, but as a contract had been entered into and the work was in hand, nothing could be done with reference to them. A report was furnished setting forth the works necessary to the tower and spire, and those which were essential before the bells could be replaced were carried out under the supervision of the Society. These works were entirely confined to the repairing of several cracks in the walls of the tower and staircase.

The surface of the tower has decayed in many places, but the works of repair and protection recommended by the Society could not be taken in hand owing to lack of funds.

The Vicar has expressed his entire satisfaction with the works which were carried out at the Society's direction, and has stated his intention of applying to the Society should he need further advice.

It should be added that the bells were mutilated at the foundry by having their cannons cut off, and that the intention to do this was not realised by the Authorities when they signed the contract.

St. Mark's, Venice.

The Committee was much alarmed at the statements which appeared in the public press, and also by recommendations contained in a report signed by an architect and engineer. It decided to appeal to the Italian Government upon the subject, and an influentially signed

Memorial was forwarded to the British Ambassador with a request that he would forward it to the Minister of Public Instruction.

It was pointed out in the Memorial that St. Mark's Church is an historical monument of world-wide reputation, and surpassing beauty, and it was of vital importance that the building should be handed down to posterity intact, except for such works as are necessary for its preservation.

Confidence was expressed that works such as underpinning, consolidation, and strengthening generally, would be dealt with in a competent manner by the architect in charge, but it was submitted that the substitution of modern reproductions for the old carving, the removal of the mosaics of the tribunes, or piers supporting the central cupola, and more particularly the taking up and levelling of the old floor of the church, would not in any way lead to the stability of the building, but would destroy what have been for centuries its characteristic features.

An earnest appeal was therefore made that the proposals should be reconsidered and the works limited to those essential for the permanent stability of St. Mark's.

The British Ambassador has informed the Society that the Memorial was presented through the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and that the Minister of Public Instruction has forwarded the Memorial to the Prefect of Venice, with a request that it may be communicated to the Authorities entrusted with the execution of the repairs of St. Mark's.

West Ham Church Tower, Essex.

A description of the works, which were then in progress at this building was given in the last report (pages 61-63).

The following letter, addressed to the architect who superintended the repairs in consultation with the Society, has been received :

TOWN HALL,
WEST HAM,
E.

December 21st, 1905.

DEAR SIR,

West Ham Church Tower.

I am directed by the Committee having charge of this work to inform you that at their last meeting, they unanimously passed a resolution thanking you for the very great skill and attention you had displayed in the repair of the ancient tower of this church, and expressing their satisfaction at the completion of the work, which can only be regarded as excellent.

I am dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,

O. BENTLEY.

WM. WEIR, ESQ.

White Ladies, Boscobel, Shropshire.

A report reached the Society that considerable damage was being done to these valuable ruins by the unchecked

growth of ivy and other vegetation. Photographs of the ruins were obtained which clearly proved the reports to be accurate, and a letter was therefore addressed to the owner, begging that the ivy and other vegetation growing on the walls, might be cut back from time to time, and thus prevent harm being done. The Committee received a most courteous reply from the owner, thanking the Society for calling attention to the matter, which he said he would have attended to. He added that owing to the property of Boscobel, excepting the "Holy Acre" of White Ladies, having passed into other hands, he had no one at or near the place, to see to things, and this made him the more grateful to the Society for having written.

Winchester Cathedral.

The works now in progress at this building are receiving the careful attention of the Committee. It hopes to report fully upon the subject next year.

Brewery, Winchester College.

During last year considerable anxiety was felt as to the future of the old College Brewery at Winchester.

Besides all the charm of its old grey walls and simple well ordered lines, this building has great archæological interest. It is probably the only mediæval brewery which has continued to be used as such down to the present day, and it shows vividly the fort-like character of the barrier with which in Wykeham's time it was well to face the outer world. Plans had been elaborated for

converting the Warden's house into a house for the Headmaster; and as part of the scheme, a good half of the old brewery was to be taken for a large study and other minor purposes. The sacrifice involved was felt to be too great. Memorials sent in from Winchester and from old College Wykehamists were widely and influentially signed, and in the event (partly no doubt for financial reasons) the Warden and Fellows rejected the scheme.

Our gratitude is due especially to some of the younger Oxford Wykehamists, for their energy and faith in what seemed at the time a losing cause.

A subsequent proposal to convert the building into a library has been shelved. It is eminently unfitted for keeping books, and in this direction there is probably less danger.

Winster Market House, Derbyshire.

The National Trust have taken over the custody of this interesting building, and it has been carefully repaired under the advice of the Society. The walls have been strengthened and repaired, and a new roof constructed and covered with stone slates. The windows have been glazed with clear glass in leaded lights, and the interior finished in a simple manner. It is to be hoped some suitable purpose will be found for the upper portion, which would make a good Club-room or Reading-room for the village. The Market House was referred to in the Report for 1903 (pages 53 and 54).

Wroughton Church Tower, Wilts.

This tower is of fifteenth century date. Schemes for dealing with it had been prepared by several architects, but it has recently been repaired under the auspices of the Society, the architect directing the work on the spot in consultation with the Committee.

The tower is built of stone, rubble faced, with ashlar dressings to the angles and openings. The arch into the nave is the full width of the tower, and twenty-five feet high from the floor to the apex. There is an outside turret staircase at the south-east angle, which leads up to the ringing chamber. The western angles have buttresses up to the same level. The west door, and the window over it, are of modern date.

The foundations, upon examination, proved to be excellent, both in condition and construction. The walls at the ground level were found to be in a good state, with the exception of the buttresses at the west angles, portions of which were loose and cracked. These have been underpinned in a solid manner and a concrete channel formed on the north and south sides, faced with hard stone, and laid to falls, to carry the surface water away from the building, by means of gulleys and drain pipes.

A good concrete foundation has been inserted under the stone steps, at the entrance to the turret staircase, and the steps rebbed in a solid manner. A little above the floor level, there is a blocked up doorway, which formerly gave access from the staircase to a gallery in

the tower. The stone lintel, which was broken, and the loose filling in of the opening has been removed, and the opening built up solid.

The south wall, which is only eighteen inches thick, at the back of the staircase, has been strengthened, at different heights, by means of concrete lintels, inserted in the thickness of the wall, and corbelled over the inside of the staircase, above the head level.

The walls and buttresses of the tower have been repaired and strengthened, the stone parapet and angle pinnacles reset, the roof timbers and the lead covering repaired where necessary, and a lightning conductor provided. The bell frame has been strengthened by a system of diagonal oak braces, introduced under the beams supporting the bell frame, so as to reduce the vibration when the bells are rung. The bells have been quarter-turned without cutting off the cannons and new fittings provided.

The repairs were carried out by local workmen.

The following is a list of Buildings which have come before the Society during the Year :—

- | | |
|--|--|
| Abinger Hammer, Surrey, Crossways Farm. | Buckland-in-the-Moor Church, Devonshire. |
| Abinger Hammer, Surrey, Hatch Farm. | Buckthorpe Church, Yorks. |
| Anstey Church, Herts. | Bunbury Church, Cheshire. |
| Ashbourne, Derbyshire, Old Grammar School. | Buncton Church, Sussex. |
| Aylesford Bridge, Kent. | Bursay, Orkney, N.B., The Earl's Palace. |
| Ayot St. Lawrence, Herts., Ruins of Church. | Canterbury Cathedral, Kent. |
| Ayr, N.B., Auld Brig of Barrington Court, Somerset. | Canterbury, Kent, Sidney Cooper's House. |
| Barsham Church, Suffolk. | Cardynham Church, Cornwall. |
| Bath Abbey, Somerset. | Carisbrooke Church, Isle of Wight. |
| Berwick-on-Tweed, Town Walls. | Carnarvon Castle, Carnarvonshire. |
| Blatchington Church, Sussex. | Carreg, Corwen, Merioneths., Owen Glyndwr's Prison House. |
| Blechingley Church Tower, Surrey. | Catfield Church, Norfolk. |
| Blythburgh Church, Suffolk. | Ceylon, Ancient Buildings of Chadshunt Church, Warwickshire. |
| Bonnington Priory, Kent. | Charney, Berks., Manor House. |
| Borwick Hall, Lancs. | Chartres Cathedral, Glass. |
| Bosham Church, Sussex. | Clare Church, Suffolk. |
| Bradwell Church Spire, Lechlade, Oxon. | Claypole, Lincs., Bridge. |
| Branscombe Church, Devonshire. | Cliff-at-Hoo, Kent, Manor Farm. |
| Brington Church, Northants. | Coleridge Church, N. Devon. |
| Bristol, Gloucestershire, All Saints' Church. | Combe Church, Oxon. |
| Bristol, Gloucestershire, The Old Dutch House. | Compton Church, Surrey. |
| Brixham, Devon., St. Mary's Church. | Compton Martin Church, Somerset. |
| Brixworth Church, Northants. | Corhampton Church, Hants. |
| Buckholt, nr. Birdlip, Gloucestershire, Roman Mosaics at | Cowarne Church, Herefordshire. |
| | Croxton Church, Cambridgeshire. |
| | Croydon Palace Chapel, Surrey. |
| | Croyland Abbey, Lincs. |
| | Culross Abbey, N.B. |
| | Cyprus, Antiquities of. |

- Dalham Church, Suffolk.
 Dartford Church, Kent.
 East Grinstead, Sussex, Sackville College.
 East Ham, Essex, Anne Boleyn's Castle.
 Eccles Church, Lancs.
 Ecton Church, Northants.
 Edenbridge Church, Kent.
 Enfield, Middlesex, Old Post Office.
 Eton College, Bucks.
 Exbourne, Devon., Church House.
 Exeter Cathedral, Devonshire.
 Exeter, Devonshire, St. Petrock's Church Tower.
 Fakenham Church, Norfolk.
 Fingringhoe Church, Essex.
 Fingringhoe Village, Essex.
 Flamstead Church, Herts.
 Forest-of-Birse Castle, Aberdeen.
 Frettenham Church, Norfolk.
 Glasgow Infirmary.
 Gloucester Cathedral.
 Great Henny Church, Essex.
 Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, The Tolhouse.
 Guard Bridge, St. Andrews, N.B.
 Guildford, Surrey, The White Hart Hotel.
 Haddon Hall Derbyshire.
 Hessest Church, Suffolk.
 High Wycombe, Bucks., Hospital of St. John the Baptist.
 Hill Croome Church, Worcester-shire.
 Hitchin, Herts., St. Mary's Church.
 Holcombe Rogus, Devon, Poor House.
 Hough Church, Lincs.
 Hougham Church, Lincs.
 Hurstmonceux Castle, Sussex.
 Ilketshall Church, Suffolk.
 Indian Monuments.
 Isleham Church, Cambridgeshire.
 Ivychurch Church, Kent.
 Jarrow, Durham, Church and Monastic Remains.
 Keelby Church, Lincolnshire.
 Kenilworth, Warwickshire, Ancient Cottages.
 Kirkdale Church, Yorks.
 Kirklington Church, Oxon.
 Kirkwall, N.B., St. Magnus Cathedral.
 Landrake Church Tower, Cornwall.
 Lanteglos - by - Fowey Church, Cornwall.
 Leake Church, Yorks.
 Lewisham, Kent, Colfe's Almshouses, High Street.
 Lilbourne Church, Northants.
 Limington Church, Somerset.
 Linchmere Church, Sussex.
 Liscombe Chapel, Dorset.
 Little Missenden Church, Bucks.
 Llanbabo Church, Anglesea.
 Llandefalle Church, Brecon.
 Llandingat Church, Carmarthen-shire.
 Llandrillo-yn-Rhos Church, Denbighshire.
 Llanelly Church, Carmarthen.
 Llanfalthlu Church, Anglesea.
 London, Billingsgate and Tower Wards School.
 London, Chelsea, Houses, Royal Hospital Road.
 London, Cripplegate, St. Giles' Church Tower.
 London, Highgate, Cromwell House.
 London, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Houses.
 London, Lincoln's Inn Gateway.
 London, Westminster Abbey, Monuments.
 London, Whitehall, Harrington House, Craigs Court.
 Maclynneth, Montgomeryshire, Owen Glyndwrs Parliament House.
 Madley Church, Herefordshire.
 Maidstone, Kent, Ancient Gate House.

- Manchester, Lancs., St. Peter's Church.
 Marton Church, Lincs.
 Mautby Church, Norfolk.
 Merton Abbey, Surrey.
 Mold Church, Flints.
 Nacton Church, Suffolk.
 Newark, Notts., The Grammar School.
 Newark Abbey, Surrey.
 Newchurch Church, Kent.
 New Shoreham Church, Sussex.
 Northfleet Church, Kent.
 North Meols Church, Lancs.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Cathedral Tower and Spire.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St. Mary Coslany.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St. Peter Hungate.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Grammar School, Cathedral Close.
 Nottingham Castle, Notts.
 Old Walsingham Church, Norfolk.
 Ormside Church Tower, Westmorland.
 Ottery St. Mary Church, Devon.
 Packwood House, near Warwick.
 Painswick, Gloucestershire, London House.
 Pirbright Church Tower, Surrey.
 Pitlington Hallgarth Church, Durham.
 Plumtree Church Tower, Notts.
 Plymtree Church, Devon.
 Porchester Castle, Hants.
 Potter Heigham Church, Norfolk.
 Princes Risborough Church, Bucks.
 Puttenham Church, Surrey.
 Pyrford Church, Surrey.
 Ranworth Church, Norfolk.
 Rosyth, N.B., Castle of
 Romsey Abbey Church, Hants.
 Rye, Sussex, St. Augustine's Priory
 St. Mary Bourne Church, Hants.
 St. Piran's Oratory, Cornwall.
 Sall Church, Norfolk.
 Scremby Church, Lincs.
 Sheriff Hutton Church, Yorks.
 Shrewsbury Abbey Church Tower, Salop.
 Silk Willoughby Church, Lincs.
 Skirbeck Church, Lincs.
 Southampton, Mediæval Hall, Simnel Street.
 Southchurch Church, Essex.
 South Perrot Church, Dorset.
 Southwell, Notts. Ruins of Ancient Palace.
 Stanford-on-Avon Church, Leicestershire and Northants.
 Stanground Church, nr Peterboro'.
 Stanton Harcourt Church, Oxon.
 Steeple Bumpstead Church Tower, Essex.
 Stenness, N.B., Standing Stones of Stody Church, Norfolk.
 Stoke Poges Church, Bucks.
 Sutton Montis Church, Somerset.
 Swainswick Church, Somerset.
 Swardeston Church, Norfolk.
 Tarvin Church, Cheshire.
 Tewkesbury Abbey, Gloucestershire, Western Front and Towers.
 Theydon Garnon, Essex, Church.
 Theydon Garnon, Essex, Church House.
 Thorney Abbey, Cambs.
 Tilsworth Church, Beds.
 Tintern Abbey, Monmouthshire.
 Upleadon Church, Gloucestershire.
 Upton-on-Severn Old Church, Worcestershire.
 Uttoxeter Church Tower, Staffs.
 Venice, Church of St. Mark.
 Warwick, St. John's House.
 Watlington, Oxon. Old Town Hall.
 Wells, Somerset, Hall of the College of Vicars' Choral.
 West Ham Church Tower, Essex.
 West Mersea, Essex, Roman Remains.

West Stow Hall, Suffolk.
Whalley Church, Lancs.
Whaplode Church, Lincs.
White Ladies, Boscobel, Shropshire.
Widford Church, Oxon.
Widcombe Church, Devonshire.
Willington, Beds., Ancient Buildings.
Winchester, Hants., The Cathedral.
Winchester, Hants., Cheesehill Rectory.

Winchester, Hants., The College.
Winchester, Hants., St. John's Hospital Chapel.
Winfarthing Church, Norfolk.
Winster Market House, Derbyshire
Wolverhampton, Staffs., St. Peter's Church.
Wroughton Church Tower, Wilts.
York Minster.

REPORT OF GENERAL MEETING.

THE General Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, June 20th, 1906, in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, W., by the kind permission of that Society.

The chair was taken by the Right Hon. The Earl of Plymouth.

The Chairman, in proposing that the Report be taken as read and adopted, expressed surprise at the amount of work which was carried out by the Society on its small income.

The Hon. Percy Wyndham seconded the motion, and referred to the fact that works of necessary repairs to ancient buildings were now undertaken by professional members of the Society, in consultation with the Committee.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Colonel Eustace Balfour, A.D.C., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., then read the following paper, written by Mr. Thomas Hardy :

MEMORIES OF CHURCH RESTORATION.

A MELANCHOLY reflection may have occurred to many people whose interests have lain in the study of Gothic Architecture. The passion for "restoration" first became vigorously operative, say, three quarters of a century ago ; and if all the mediæval Churches better untouched.

buildings in England had been left as they stood at that date, to incur whatever dilapidations might have befallen them at the hands of time, weather and general neglect, this country would be richer in specimens to-day than it finds itself to be after the expenditure of millions in a nominal preservation during that period.

Destruction has been on a gigantic scale.

Active destruction under saving names has been effected upon so gigantic a scale that the incidental protection of structures, or portions of structures, by their being kept wind and water-proof through such operations counts as nothing in the balance. Its enormous magnitude is realised by few who have not gone personally from parish to parish through a considerable district, and compared existing churches there with records, traditions, and memories of what they formerly were.

Little wiser now.

But the unhappy fact is nowadays generally admitted, and it would hardly be worth adverting to on this occasion if what is additionally assumed were also true, or approximately true; that we are wiser now, that architects, incumbents, churchwardens and all concerned, are zealous to act conservatively by such few of these buildings as still remain untinkered, that they desire at last to repair as far as is possible the errors of their predecessors, and to do anything but repeat them.

Such an assumption is not borne out by events. As it was in the days of Scott the First and Scott the Second—Sir Walter and Sir Gilbert—so it is

at this day on a smaller scale. True it may be that our more intelligent architects now know the better way, and that damage is largely limited to minor buildings and to obscure places. But continue it does, despite the efforts of this Society; nor does it seem ever likely to stop till all tampering with chronicles in stone be forbidden by law, and all operations bearing on their repair be permitted only under the eyes of properly qualified inspectors.

At first sight it seems an easy matter to preserve an old building without hurting its character. Let nobody form an opinion on that point who has never had an old building to preserve.

In respect of church conservation, the difficulty we encounter on the threshold, and one which besets us at every turn, is the fact that the building is beheld in two contradictory lights, and required for two incompatible purposes. To the incumbent the church is a workshop or laboratory; to the antiquary it is a relic. To the parish it is a utility; to the outsider a luxury. How unite these incompatibles? A utilitarian machine has naturally to be kept going, so that it may continue to discharge its original functions; an antiquarian specimen has to be preserved without making good even its worst deficiencies. The quaintly carved seat that a touch will damage has to be sat in, the frameless doors with the queer old locks and hinges have to keep out draughts, the bells whose shaking endangers the graceful steeple have to be rung.

If the ruinous church could be enclosed in a crystal palace, covering it to the weathercock from rain and wind, and a new church be built alongside for services (assuming the parish to retain sufficient earnest-mindedness to desire them), the method would be an ideal one. But even a parish entirely composed of opulent members of this Society would be staggered by such an undertaking. No: all that can be done is of the nature of compromise. It is not within the scope of this paper to inquire how such compromises between users and musers may best be carried out, and how supervision, by those who really know, can best be ensured when wear and tear and the attacks of weather make interference unhappily unavoidable. Those who are better acquainted than I am with the possibilities of such cases can write thereon, and have, indeed, already done so for many years past. All that I am able to do is to look back in a contrite spirit at my own brief experience as a church-restorer, and by recalling instances of the drastic treatment we then dealt out with light hearts to the unlucky fanes that fell into our hands, possibly help to prevent its repetition on the few yet left untouched.

The worst cases in past times.

The policy of Thorough in these proceedings was always, of course, that in which the old church was boldly pulled down from no genuine necessity, but from a wanton wish to erect a more stylish one.. This I pass over in melancholy silence.

Akin to it was the case in which a church exhibiting two or three styles was made uniform by removing the features of all but one style, and imitating that throughout in new work. Such devastations need hardly be dwelt on now. Except in the most barbarous recesses of our counties they are past. Their name alone is their condemnation.

The shifting of old windows, and other details Shifting of old features. irregularly spaced, and spacing them at exact distances, was an analogous process. The deportation of the original chancel-arch to an obscure nook, and the insertion of a wider new one to throw open the view of the choir, was also a practice much favoured, and is by no means now extinct. In passing through a village less than five years ago the present writer paused a few minutes to look at the church, and on reaching the door heard quarrelling within. The voices were discovered to be those of two men—brothers, I regret to state—who after an absence of many years had just returned to their native place to attend their father's funeral. The dispute was as to where the family pew had stood in their younger days. One swore that it was in the north aisle, adducing as proof his positive recollection of studying Sunday after Sunday the zigzag moulding of the arch before his eyes, which now visibly led from that aisle into the north transept. The other was equally positive that the pew had been in the nave. As the altercation grew sharper an explana-

tion of the puzzle occurred to me, and I suggested that the old Norman arch we were looking at might have been the original chancel-arch, banished into the aisle to make room for the straddling new object in its place. Then one of the pair of natives remembered that a report of such a restoration had reached his ears afar, and the family peace was preserved, though not till the other had said "Then I'm drowned if I'll ever come into the paltry church again, after having such a trick played upon me."

Puzzling
questions
for Pos-
terity.

Many puzzling questions are to be explained by these shiftings, and particularly in the case of monuments, whose transposition sometimes led to quaint results. The chancel of a church not a hundred and fifty miles from London has in one corner a vault containing a fashionable actor and his wife, in another corner a vault inclosing the remains of a former venerable vicar, who abjured women, and died a bachelor. The mural tablets, each over its own vault, were taken down at the refurbishing of the building, and refixed reversely, the stone of the theatrical couple over the solitary divine, and that of the latter over the pair from the stage. Should disinterment ever take place, which is not unlikely nowadays, the excavators will be surprised to find a lady beside the supposed reverend bachelor, and the supposed actor without his wife. As the latter was a comedian he would probably enjoy the situation if he could know it,

though the vicar's feelings might be somewhat different.

Such facetious carelessness is not peculiar to our own country. It may be remembered that when Mrs. Shelley wished to exhume her little boy William, who had been buried in the English cemetery at Rome, with the view of placing his body beside his father's ashes, no coffin was found beneath the boy's headstone, and she could not carry out her affectionate wish.

This game of Monumental Puss-in-the-Corner, even when the outcome of no blundering, and where reasons can be pleaded on artistic or other grounds, is, indeed, an unpleasant subject of contemplation by those who maintain the inviolability of records. Instances of such in London churches will occur to everybody. One would like to know if any note has been kept of the original position of Milton's monument in Cripplegate Church, which has been moved more than once, I believe, and if the position of his rifled grave is now known. When I first saw the monument it stood near the east end of the south aisle.

Sherborne Abbey affords an example on a large scale of the banishment of memorials of the dead, to the doubtful advantage of the living. The human interest in an edifice ranks before its architectural interest, however great the latter may be; and to find that the innumerable monuments erected in that long-suffering building are all

Memorials banished for artistic reasons

huddled away into the vestry is, at least from my point of view, a heavy mental payment for the clear nave and aisles. If the inscriptions could be read the harm would perhaps be less, but to read them is impossible without ladders, so that these plaintive records are lost to human notice. Many, perhaps, deserve to be forgotten; but who shall judge?

And destroyed.

And unhappily it was oftenest of all the head-stones of the poorer inhabitants—purchased and erected in many cases out of scanty means—that suffered most in these ravages. It is scarcely necessary to particularise among the innumerable instances in which head-stones have been removed from their positions, the churchyard levelled, and the head-stones used for paving the churchyard walks, with the result that the inscriptions have been trodden out in a few years.

“Old Materials.”

Next in harm to the re-designing of old buildings and parts of them came the devastations caused by letting restorations by contract, with a clause in the specification requesting the builder to give a price for “old materials”—the most important of these being the lead of the roofs, which was to be replaced by tiles or slate, and the oak of the pews, pulpit, altar-rails, etc., to be replaced by deal. This terrible custom is, I should suppose, discontinued in these days. Under it the builder was directly incited to destroy as much as possible of the old fabric as had intrinsic value, that he might

increase the spoil which was to come to him for a fixed deduction from his contract. Brasses have marvellously disappeared at such times, heavy brass chandeliers, marble tablets, oak carving of all sorts, leadwork above all.

But apart from irregularities it was always a principle that anything later than Henry the Eighth was Anathema, and to be cast out. At Wimborne Minster fine Jacobean canopies were removed from Tudor stalls for the offence only of being Jacobean. At an hotel in Cornwall, a tea-garden was, and possibly is still, ornamented with seats constructed of the carved oak from a neighbouring church—no doubt the restorer's honest perquisite. Church relics turned up in unexpected places. I remember once going into the stonemason's shed of a builder's yard, where, on looking round, I started to see the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, in gilt letters, staring emphatically from the sides of the shed—"Oh, yes," said the builder, a highly respectable man, "I took 'em as old materials under my contract when I gutted St. Michael and All Angels', and I put 'em here to keep out the weather: they might keep my blackguard hands serious at the same time; but they don't." A lady once was heard to say that she could not go to morning service at a particular church because the parson read certain of the Commandments with such accusatory emphasis: whether these that had become degraded to the condition of old materials

Des-
truction
of good
features

For the
crime of
their date.

were taken down owing to kindred objections one cannot know.

A use for
old family
vaults.

But many such old materials were, naturally, useless when once unfixed. Another churchwright whom I knew in early days was greatly incommoded by the quantity of rubbish that had accumulated during a restoration he had in hand, there being no place in the churchyard to which it could be wheeled. In the middle of the church was the huge vault of an ancient family supposed to be extinct, which had been broken into at one corner by the pickaxe of the restorers, and this vault was found to be a convenient receptacle for the troublesome refuse from the Ages. When a large number of barrow-loads had been tipped through the hole the labourer lifted his eyes to behold a tall figure standing between him and the light. "What are you doing my man?" said the figure blandly. "A getting rid of the rubbage, Sir," replied the labourer. "But why do you put it there?" "Because all the folks have died out, so it don't matter what we do with their old bone cellar." "Don't you be too sure about the folks having died out. I am one of that family, and as I am very much alive, and that vault is my freehold, I'll just ask you to take all the rubbish out again." It was said that the speaker had by chance returned from America, where he had made a fortune, in the nick of time to witness this performance, and that the vault was duly cleared and sealed up as he ordered.

The "munificent contributor" to the expense of restoration was often the most fearful instigator of mischief. I may instance the case of a Transition-Norman pier with a group of shafts, the capitals of which showed signs of crushing under the weight of the arches. By taking great care it was found possible to retain the abacus and projecting parts supporting it, sculptured with the vigorous curled leaves of the period, only the diminishing parts, or the bell of each capital, being renewed. The day after the re-opening of the church the lady who had defrayed much of the expense complained to the contractor of his mean treatment of her in leaving half the old capitals when he should have behaved handsomely, and renewed the whole. To oblige her the carver chipped over the surface of the old carving, not only in that pier, but in *all* the piers, and made it look as good as new.

Poor parishes, which could not afford to pay a clerk of works to superintend the alterations, suffered badly in these ecclesiastical convulsions. During the years they were raging at their height I journeyed to a distant place to supervise a case, in the enforced absence of an older eye. The careful repair of an interesting early English window had been specified; but it was gone. The contractor, who had met me on the spot, replied genially to my gaze of concern: "Well now, I said to myself when I looked at the old thing, 'I won't stand upon a pound or two: I'll give 'em a new

The generous donor the instigator of mischief.

No Clerk of Works, fatal.

Builders' misapprehensions.

winder now I am about it, and make a good job of it, howsomever.' ” A caricature in new stone of the old window had taken its place.

In the same church was an old oak rood-screen of debased perpendicular workmanship, but valuable, the original colouring and gilding, though much faded, still remaining on the cusps and mouldings. The repairs deemed necessary had been duly specified, but I beheld in its place a new screen of deal, varnished to a mirror-like brilliancy. “Well,” replied the builder, more genially than ever, “I said to myself, ‘Please God, now I am about it, I’ll do the thing well, cost what it will!’” “Where’s the old screen?” I said, appalled. “Used up to boil the workmen’s kittles; though’a were not much at that!”

The reason for consternation lay in the fact that the bishop—strictly Protestant—had promulgated a decree concerning rood-screens, *viz.*, that though those in existence might be repaired, no new one would be suffered in his diocese. This the builder knew nothing of. What was to be done at the re-opening, when the bishop was to be present, and would notice the forbidden thing? I had to decide there and then, and resolved to trust to chance and see what happened. On the day of the opening we anxiously watched the bishop’s approach, and I fancied I detected a lurid glare in his eye as it fell upon the illicit rood screen. But he walked quite innocently under it without noticing

that it was not the original. If he noticed it during the service he was politic enough to say nothing.

I might dwell upon the mistakes of architects as well as of builders if there were time. That architects the most experienced could be cheated to regard an accident of Churchwardenry as high artistic purpose, was revealed to a body of architectural students, of which the present writer was one, when they were taken over Westminster Abbey in a peripatetic lecture by the late Sir Gilbert Scott. He, at the top of a ladder, was bringing to our notice a feature which had, he said, perplexed him for a long time, why the surface of diapered stone before him should suddenly be discontinued at the spot he pointed out, when there was every reason for carrying it on. Possibly the artist had decided that to break the surface was a mistake; possibly he had died; possibly anything; but there the mystery was. "Perhaps it is only plastered over," cried the reedy voice of the youngest pupil in our group. "Well, that's what I never thought of," replied Sir Gilbert, and taking from his pocket a clasp knife which he carried for such purposes, he prodded the plain surface with it. "Yes, it *is* plastered over, and all my theories are wasted," he continued, descending the ladder not without humility.

My knowledge at first hand of the conditions of church-repair at the present moment is very limited. But one or two prevalent abuses have come by

Mistakes
of Archi-
tects.

Abuses in
re-hanging
of Bells.

accident under my notice. The first concerns the rehangings of church bells. A barbarous practice is, I believe, very general, that of cutting off the cannon of each bell—namely, the loop on the crown by which it has been strapped to the stock—and restrapping it by means of holes cut through the crown itself. The mutilation is sanctioned on the ground that, by so fixing it, the centre of the bell's gravity is brought nearer to the axis on which it swings, with advantage and ease to the ringing. I do not question the truth of this; but the resources of mechanics are not so exhausted but that the same result may be obtained by leaving the bell un mutilated and increasing the camber of the stock, which, for that matter, might be so great as nearly to reach a right angle. I was recently passing through a churchyard where I saw standing on the grass a peal of bells just taken down from the adjacent tower and subjected to this treatment. A sight more piteous than that presented by these fine bells, standing disfigured in a row in the sunshine, like cropped criminals in the pillory, as it were ashamed of their degradation, I have never witnessed among inanimate things.

Destruction
of
chimes.

Speaking of bells, I should like to ask cursorily why the old sets of chimes have been removed from nearly all our country churches. The midnight wayfarer, in passing along the sleeping village or town, was cheered by the outburst of a stumbling tune, which possessed the added charm of being

probably heeded by no ear but his own. Or, when lying awake in sickness, the denizen would catch the same notes, persuading him that all was right with the world. But one may go half across England and hear no chimes at midnight now.

I may here mention a singular incident which occurred in respect of a new peal of bells at a church whose rebuilding I was privy to, which occurred on the opening day many years ago. It being a popular and fashionable occasion, the church was packed with its congregation long before the bells rang out for service. When the ringers seized the ropes, a noise more deafening than thunder resounded from the tower in the ears of the startled sitters. Terrified at the idea that the tower was falling they rushed out at the door, ringers included, into the arms of the astonished bishop and clergy advancing in procession up the churchyard path, some of the ladies being in a fainting state. When calmness was restored by the sight of the tower standing unmoved as usual, it was discovered that the six bells had been placed "in stay"—that is, in an inverted position ready for the ringing, but in the hurry of preparation the clappers had been laid inside though not fastened on, and at the first swing of the bells they had fallen out upon the belfry floor.

After this digression I return to one other abuse of ecclesiastical fabrics, that arising from the fixing of Christmas decorations.

The battalion of young

ladies to whom the decking with holly and ivy is usually entrusted, seem to be possessed with a fixed idea that nails may be driven not only into old oak and into the joints of the masonry, but into the freestone itself if you only hit hard enough. Many observers must have noticed the mischief wrought by these nails. I lately found a fifteenth century arch to have suffered more damage during the last twenty years from this cause than during the previous five hundred of its existence. The pock-marked surface of many old oak pulpits is entirely the effect of the numberless tin-tacks driven into them for the same purpose.

An ideal
view of
restora-
tion.

Such abuses as these, however, are gross, open, palpable, and easy to be checked. Far more subtle and elusive ones await our concluding consideration, which I will rapidly enter on now. Some who have mused upon the safeguarding of our old architecture must have indulged in a reflection, which at first sight, seems altogether to give away the argument for its material preservation. It is that, abstractedly, there is everything to be said in favour of church renovation—if that really means the honest reproduction of old shapes in substituted materials. And this too, not merely when the old materials are perishing, but when they are only approaching decay.

It is easy to show that the essence and soul of an architectural monument does not lie in the particular blocks of stone or timber that compose it,

but in the mere forms to which those materials have been shaped. We discern in a moment that it is in the boundary of a solid—its insubstantial superficies or mould—and not in the solid itself, that its right lies to exist as art. The whole quality of Gothic or other architecture—let it be a cathedral, a spire, a window, or what not—essentially attaches to this, and not to the substantial erection which it appears exclusively to consist in. Those limestones or sandstones have passed into its form ; yet it is an idea independent of them—an æsthetic phantom without solidity, which might just as suitably have chosen millions of other stones from the quarry whereon to display its beauties. Such perfect results of art as the aspect of Salisbury Cathedral from the north-east corner of the Close, the interior of Henry VII.'s Chapel at Westminster, the East Window of Merton Chapel, Oxford, would be no less perfect if at this moment, by the wand of some magician, other similar materials could be conjured into their shapes, and the old substance be made to vanish for ever.

This is, indeed, the actual process of organic nature herself, which is one continuous substitution. She is always discarding the matter, while retaining the form.

Why this reasoning does not hold good for a dead art, why the existence and efforts of this Society are so amply justifiable, lies in two attributes of by-gone Gothic artistry—a material and a spiritual

Restoration practically objectionable

and well-
nigh im-
possible,

one. The first is uniqueness ; such a duplicate as we have been considering can never be executed. No man can make two pieces of matter exactly alike. But not to shelter the argument behind microscopic niceties, or to imagine what approximations might be effected by processes so costly as to be prohibitive, it is found in practice that even such an easily copied shape as, say, a traceried window, does not get truly reproduced. The old form inherits, or has acquired, an indefinable quality—possibly some deviations from exact geometry (curves were often struck by hand in mediæval work)—which never reappears in the copy, especially in the vast majority of cases where no nice approximation is attempted.

Moreover
fatal to
human
interest.

The second, or spiritual attribute which stultifies the would-be reproducer, is perhaps more important still, and is not artistic at all. It lies in human associations. The influence that a building like Lincoln or Winchester exercises on a person of average impressionableness and culture is a compound influence, and though it would be a fanciful attempt to define how many fractions of that compound are æsthetic, and how many associative, there can be no doubt that the latter is more valuable than the former. Some may be of a different opinion, but I think the damage done to this sentiment of association by replacement, by the rupture of continuity, is mainly what makes the enormous loss this country has sustained from its

seventy years of church restoration so tragic and deplorable. The protection of an ancient edifice against renewal in fresh materials is, in fact, even more of a social—I may say a humane—duty than an æsthetic one. It is the preservation of memories, history, fellowship, fraternities. Life, after all, is more than art, and that which appealed to us in the (may be) clumsy outlines of some structure which had been looked at and entered by a dozen generations of ancestors outweighs the more subtle recognition, if any, of architectural qualities. The renewed stones at Hereford, Peterborough, Salisbury, St. Albans, Wells, and so many other places, are not the stones that witnessed the scenes in *English Chronicle* associated with those piles. They are not the stones over whose face the organ notes of centuries “lingered and wandered on as loth to die,” and the fact that they are not, too often results in spreading abroad the feeling I instanced in the anecdote of the two brothers.

Moreover, by a curious irony, the parts of a church that have suffered the most complete obliteration are those of the closest personal relation—the woodwork, especially that of the oak pews of various Georgian dates, with their skilful panellings, of which not a joint had started, and mouldings become so hard as to turn the edge of a knife. The deal benches with which these cunningly mitred and morticed framings have been

largely replaced have already, in many cases, fallen into decay.

But the building is actually perishing.

But not all pewing was of oak, not all stonework and roof timbers were sound, when the renovators of the late century laid hands on them; and this leads back again to the standing practical question of bewildering difficulty which faces the protectors of Ancient Buildings—what is to be done in instances of rapid decay to prevent the entire disappearance of such as yet exists? Shall we allow it to remain untouched for the brief years of its durability, to have the luxury of the original a little while, or sacrifice the rotting original to instal, at least, a reminder of its design? The first impulse of those who are not architects is to keep, ever so little longer, what they can of the very substance itself at all costs to the future. But let us reflect a little. Those designers of the middle ages who were concerned with that original cared nothing for the individual stone or stick—would not even have cared for it had it acquired the history that it now possesses; their minds were centred on the afore-said form, with, possibly, its colour and endurance, all which qualities it is now rapidly losing. Why then, should we prize what they neglected, and neglect what they prized?

Conflict of the Æsthetic sense with the Anti-quarian.

This is rather a large question for the end of a paper. Out of it arises a conflict between the purely æsthetic sense and the memorial or associative. The artist instinct and the care-taking instinct

part company over the disappearing creation. The true architect, who is first of all an artist and not an antiquary, is naturally most influenced by the æsthetic sense, his desire being, like Nature's, to retain, recover, or recreate the idea which has become damaged, without much concern about the associations of the material that idea may have been displayed in. Few occupations are more pleasant than that of endeavouring to re-capture an old design from the elusive hand of annihilation.

Thus if the architect have also an antiquarian bias he is pulled in two directions—in one by his wish to hand on or modify the abstract form, in the other by his reverence for the antiquity of its embodiment.

Architects have been much blamed for their doings in respect of old churches, and no doubt they have much to answer for. Yet one cannot logically blame an architect for being an architect—a chief craftsman, constructor, creator of forms—not their preserver.

If I were practising in that profession I would not, I think, undertake a church restoration in any circumstances. I should reply, if asked to do so, that a retired tinker or rivetter of old china, or some "Old Mortality" from the almshouse, would superintend the business better. In short, the opposing tendencies excited in an architect by the distracting situation can find no satisfactory reconciliation. All that he can do is of the nature of compromise.

But these
are not the
majority
of cases.

Fortunately cases of imminent disappearance are not the most numerous of those on which the Society has to pronounce an opinion. The bulk of the work of preservation lies in organising resistance to the enthusiasm for newness in those parishes, priests and churchwardens who regard a church as a sort of villa to be made convenient and fashionable for the occupiers of the moment; who say, give me a wide chancel arch; they are "in" at present; who pull down the west gallery to show the new west window, and pull out old irregular pews to fix mathematically spaced benches for a congregation that never comes.

Past in-
difference
a present
blessing.

Those who are sufficiently in touch with these proceedings may be able to formulate some practical and comprehensive rules for the salvation of such few—very few—old churches, diminishing in number every day, as chance to be left intact owing to the heathen apathy of their parson and parishioners in the last century. The happy accident of indifferentism in those worthies has preserved their churches to be a rarity and a delight to pilgrims of the present day. The policy of "masterly inaction"—often the greatest of all policies—was never practised to higher gain than by these, who simply left their historic buildings alone. To do nothing, where to act on little knowledge is a dangerous thing, is to do most and best.

Mr. Walter K. Shirley proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Thomas Hardy for the paper, and to Colonel Eustace Balfour for reading it. He expressed great satisfaction that Mr. Hardy had laid special emphasis on the value of the human associations of ancient buildings, as they were generally looked at from the artistic and architectural points of view only.

Mr. Charles M. Powell seconded the proposal, and spoke of the way in which Mr. Hardy's writings teach the close connection which exists between actual ancient buildings and the daily life of the people.

The motion was agreed to with acclamation.

Colonel Eustace Balfour briefly responded on behalf of Mr. Thomas Hardy and himself. He regretted, as a Scotsman, that Scotland was behind England in appreciating the value of ancient unrestored buildings, but thought that English tourists could do much in advocating the preservation of old buildings in Scotland, by condemning the mischievous restorations which have been carried out there, as, for instance, at Dunblane.

A vote of thanks to the Society of Antiquaries for the use of the room was passed, on the motion of Mr. John Hebb, F.R.I.B.A., seconded by Mr. Walter K. Shirley, which Mr. Philip Norman, the Treasurer, acknowledged, making reference to the good relations existing between the two Societies.

Mr. Ernest Law, F.S.A., called attention to the harm done to ancient buildings under the charge of the Office of Works and complained that the Department had not a special branch for dealing with such buildings.

On the motion of Colonel Eustace Balfour, seconded by Miss May Morris, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman for presiding.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, expressed his approval of the suggestion for providing a properly equipped expert staff at the Office of Works, to inspect and look after the ancient buildings and monuments in charge of the department.

The proceedings then terminated.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

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£r.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1904, as per last statement	217 13 3	By Payments during the year 1905:—	
" Receipts during the year 1905:—		Vicar of Bradwell, Oxon., for Church Spire Repair Fund	2 2 0
Donations	7 7 0	Vicar of Widford, Oxon., for Church Repair Fund	60 12 0
Amount received for specified buildings, including the Church of St. Peter Hungate, Norwich	238 0 0	Vicar of Bosham, Sussex, for Church Repair Fund (underpinning)	50 0 0
		The Mother Superior, Sisters of the Church, for Croydon Palace Chapel Repair Fund	5 0 0
		Rector of St. Peter Hungate, Norwich, for Church Repair Fund (on account)	10 5 0
		" Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1905	127 19 0
			335 1 3
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	<u>£68 11 7</u>		<u>£68 11 7</u>

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Receipts during the year 1905:—	Printing	37	3
Annual Subscriptions	281	19	Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Expenses	35	2
Donations	13	2	Members' Travelling Expenses	21	5
Received for Travelling Expenses in visiting Buildings, and Sale of Reports	8	19	Secretary's Salary	120	0
	...	...	Clerk's Salary	84	10
	...	...	Rent of Office	17	10
	304	1		315	11
		8	By Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1905	21	15
			„ Cash at Office	4	10
				26	6
				5½	
				£341	17
				7	

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Miss Townsend, *The Close, Salisbury.*

Miss Townshend, *Campden House Chambers, Sheffield Terr., Kensington, W.*

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Mrs. Alexander Trotter, 1, *Campden Hill Square, W.*

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E. L. Vaughan, *Eton College, Winasor.*

Rev. Hamilton Stewart Verschoyle, *Courmayeur, Val d'Aosta, Italy.*

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- *Emery Walker, F.S.A., 7, *Hammersmith Terrace, W.*
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- *Sir Thomas Wardle, *St. Edward Street, Leek.*
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 James Watts, *Abney Hall, Cheddle, Cheshire.*
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Mrs. Stewart Young, 20, *Montagu Square, W.*

Miss Harriot Yorke, 190, *Marylebone Road, N.W.*

J. R. Yorke, 2, *Chesham Street, W.*

Count Zorzi, *Venice.* (Hon. Mem.)

If any Member finds his or her name incorrectly given, the Secretary will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following Members :

J. S. Budgett.

F. Church.

Rt. Hon. Earl Cowper, K.G.

John Feeney.

Richard Garnett, C.B., LL.D.

Robert M. Mills.

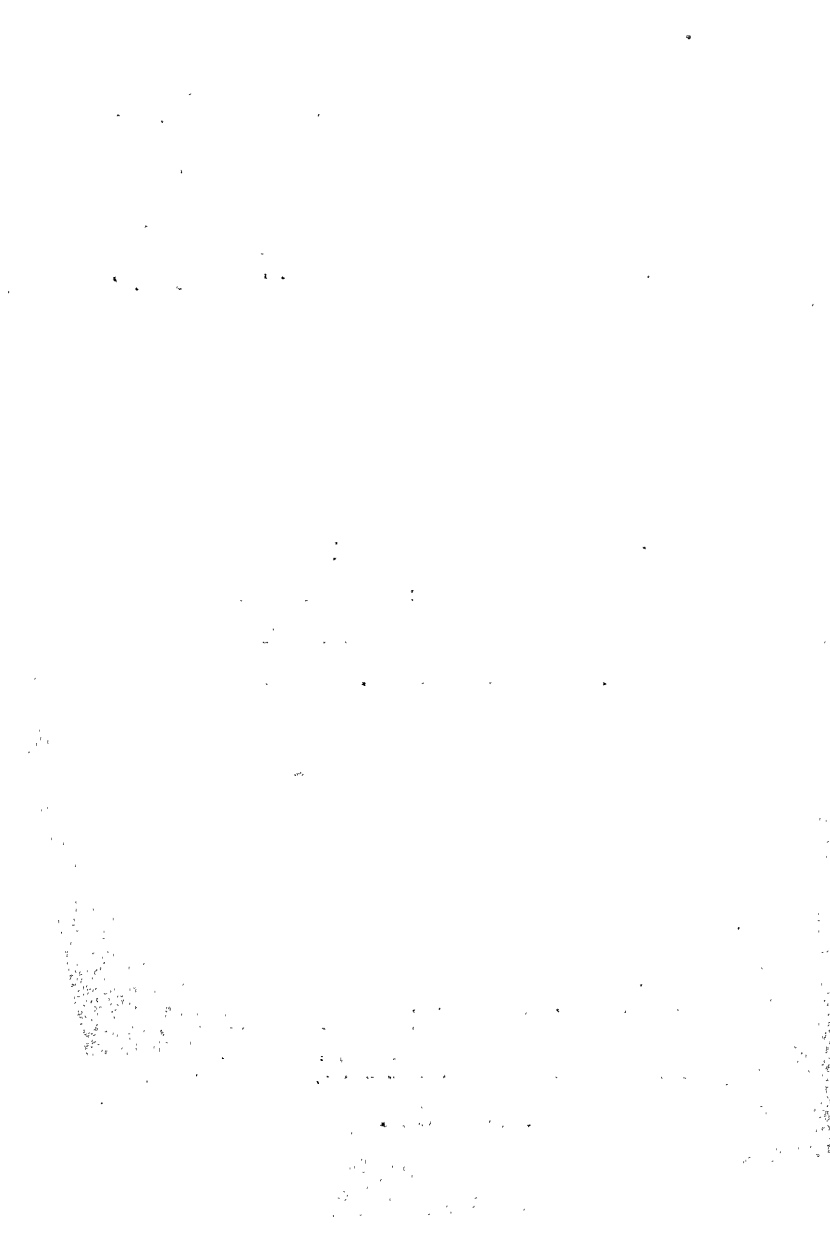
Mrs. Perceval.



THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.
THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE COMMITTEE, JUNE, 1907.

“DO NOT LET US TALK THEN
OF RESTORATION: THE THING
IS A LIE FROM BEGINNING TO
END.”—JOHN RUSKIN.

THACKERAY TURNER, SECRETARY,
20, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND,
LONDON.



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ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Committee, in laying before the members of the Society the following notes on a few of the cases which have received its consideration during the course of the year, desires especially to call attention to the descriptions which are given of the repairs carried out to particular buildings, as from these it will be realised the large amount of work undertaken by the Society, in this direction alone. In addition, the Committee considers that these descriptions are valuable as records, and also as showing the methods adopted by the Society in the repair of ancient buildings.

The Committee feels sure that if the work accomplished by the Society was more generally known, its list of members would be largely augmented, and it therefore appeals for assistance in this direction.

Wilmot Pew, Adderbury Church, Oxon.

The Wilmot, or Rochester, Pew in Adderbury Church was a very fine specimen of Jacobean work, with open balustrading, carving, and oak balls at the corners and door posts, and was always admired by archæologists and visitors to the Church as a most interesting feature of a period otherwise unrepresented. It was connected with the history of the parish and its great family—the

Earls of Rochester, of Adderbury House, in the times of Charles I. and II.—and, after the Wilmots, with other subsequent owners.

The Committee was informed that the pew had been removed and that the authorities proposed to use it as a dado. The proposal to cut up the pew was, it is understood, carried at a meeting at which nine ratepayers, besides officials, attended, but a petition was sent to the people's churchwarden, signed by about thirty persons, mostly ratepayers, begging that the pew might be re-erected.

The Committee addressed a letter to the Vicar, and urged that the matter might be reconsidered. It pointed out that the pew was of great archæological interest and architectural value, and that to cut it up as proposed would mean its destruction from the artistic and antiquarian points of view.

The Committee added that for the proper performance of Divine Worship it might be thought essential to remove the pew from the position it had occupied for so many years, but that there could be no justification for cutting the pew up, and it considered that it should be preserved intact, and be re-erected in its entirety in some other part of the Church.

The Vicar replied to the effect that the pew had been removed and that its removal had caused almost universal satisfaction. It had been suggested that the pew should be re-erected somewhere else in the Church, "but put it where you will, in my humble judgment it would be an eye-sore and an obstruction, and occupy space which is

needed for members of the congregation—besides, once removed from its old position it is degraded and loses its story. It was therefore decided at a largely attended and influential meeting of parishioners to use it for a dado for the walls," etc.

The Vicar added that they had acted under the advice of a well-known architect, whose name he gave.

The Committee replied to the Vicar to the effect that it was surprised that the architect named should have recommended the cutting up of the pew in the manner proposed, and also at the statement contained in his letter that the meeting of parishioners to which he referred was a large and influential one, as the information given to the Society was that the meeting was attended by nine ratepayers, besides officials.

A copy of the correspondence was sent to the architect, and he replied that he had no recollection of the Wilmot Pew, but that he would tell the Vicar that he hoped it might be possible to re-erect it if only a suitable place could be found.

However, in spite of the Society's efforts, the pew has been cut up as proposed. It is lamentable to think that the pew should have been in the custody of those who valued it so lightly. There can be no doubt that it could have been re-erected in some other part of the Church without being an obstruction.

Attleborough Church, Norfolk.

The Church at Attleborough was visited by the Society, and it was found that works of repair and

strengthening were needed to the walls of the nave, which are cracked over the arcades, to the walls of the aisles and tower, to the roof of the nave, and to the bell frame.

The architect very kindly allowed the Society to see his specification for dealing with the roof. So far as the work of repair is concerned it was found to be satisfactory, but the Committee regrets that he proposes to restore the tracery in the spandrils, and replace missing parts of the cresting in the cornice. Also to introduce asphalted felt in the roof.

The replacing of the tracery and cresting is pure "restoration," which, in the opinion of the Committee, will not add to, but rather detract from, the interest of the roof, for one does not expect to see an ancient building perfect, and the imitative work will in time cast a doubt upon the authenticity of the genuine mediæval work which remains.

With regard to the use of felt in ancient roofs, cases have been known in which roofs have been seriously injured by its introduction. The one thing which prevents timbers from rotting is a proper supply of air. Felt deprives the timbers of this, and there are other objections to its use.

Old Grammar School, Aylesbury, Bucks.

The Bucks. Archæological Society is making an effort to raise £3,000 for the acquisition of these interesting eighteenth century buildings, for the purposes of a County Museum.

The Committee is always glad to learn of instances in which efforts are made to preserve buildings such as these, and put them to some useful purpose, for when buildings are allowed to remain untenanted they are in danger of falling into ruin. If, however, they are occupied they are, as a rule, kept in repair, and there is less probability of their destruction being suggested.

In the case of the Old Grammar School at Aylesbury, the Committee understands that no structural alterations will be necessary in fitting the buildings for the purposes of a museum.

Aylesford Bridge, Kent.

In the last report (page 6) it was stated that owing to financial considerations this bridge was safe for the present.

The Committee is sorry to learn that there is a probability of the monetary difficulty being overcome, and that the bridge is again threatened. But it is a matter of satisfaction to the Committee to hear that there is a very strong feeling in the neighbourhood, and the county, in opposition to the destruction of the bridge, and it understands that efforts will be made by those interested, to influence the authorities in whose hands the fate of the bridge rests, in favour of its preservation. The Committee trusts these efforts will be successful, for the bridge is of great beauty and architectural interest.

Auld Brig of Ayr, N.B.

Doubtless the members of the Society will have seen

from the public press that the sum required for the preservation of the Auld Brig of Ayr has been raised.

A deep debt of gratitude is due to those who worked so energetically to bring about this result.

We understand the works of repair to the bridge are now in progress, and we hope, when they are completed, it will be found that the bridge has in no way lost either beauty or interest.

Bacton Church Tower, Herefordshire.

In the report for 1905 (pages 5-7) this building was referred to. It was stated that the Society had reported upon the Tower, and that the Rector had promised to communicate with us as soon as he could see his way to making a fair start.

The Committee has recently heard from the Rector, and it has been arranged to begin the works recommended by the Society at an early date.

This is very satisfactory, as before the Society was appealed to an architect had stated that the tower must be rebuilt.

We hope to give a description of the works in the next annual report.

The Mutilation of Ancient Bells.

The Committee has decided to give the accompanying illustration of the Bells at East Bergholt in order to explain to our members what is meant by cutting off the cannons from bells.

It will be seen that the bell which shows on the left

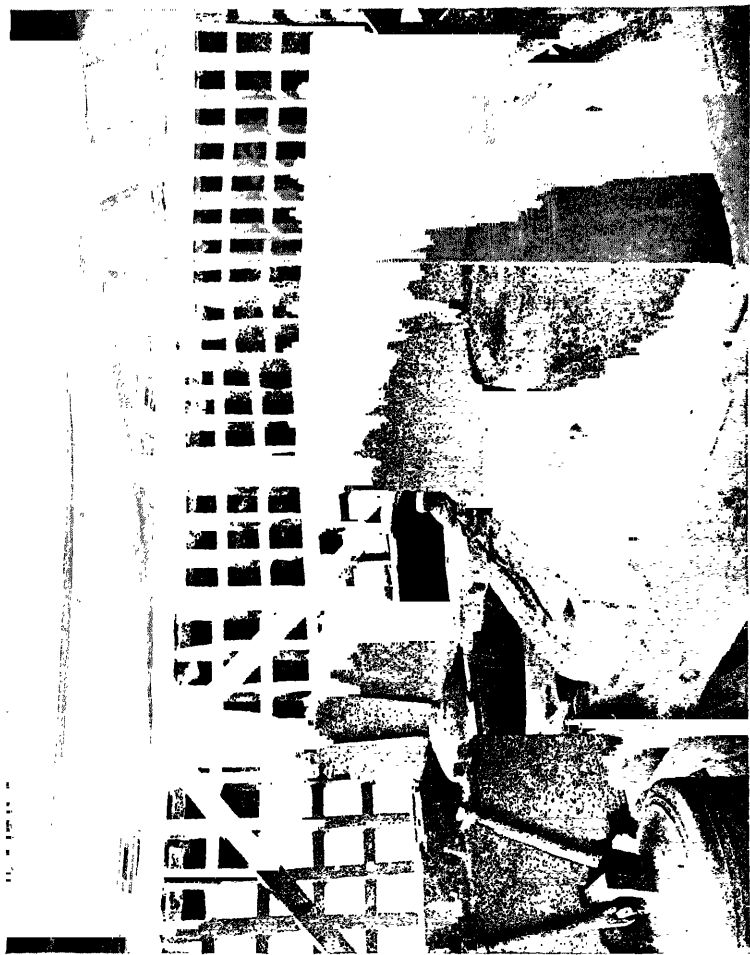


Photo. T. MacLiffe.

INTERIOR OF BELFRY AT EAST BERGHOLT.

hand bottom corner of the view retains its cannons whereas the other two bells have had the cannons cut off, holes drilled through the crowns of the bells, and bolts passed through them to secure them to the straps which pass over the stocks. This results in the crown of the bell bearing direct against the wood stock, which must deaden the bell to some extent, and, moreover, it puts an unnecessary strain upon the crown of the bell.

The Society maintains that such a course of action is barbarous and unnecessary.

One of the arguments used in favour of cutting off the cannons is that the bell can be got closer to the stock, so that the centre of gravity is somewhat higher. It will be seen that the bell which retains its cannons has had the stock cut away, and there is of course no reason why this should not be done to even a greater extent. Therefore it is obvious that the argument given need have no weight.

Another argument is that it facilitates quarter-turning the bells, which is a necessary thing to do when the clapper has worn a bell badly. This argument again should have no weight, for there is no difficulty whatever in quarter-turning bells without removing the cannons, and the Society has repeatedly done it.

Blythburgh Church, Suffolk.

This building has been referred to in the Society's reports on several occasions. In the report for 1904 (pages 14 and 15), it was reported that the Society had received a letter from the Churchwarden, in which he stated that the authorities would be quite willing for the

repairs to be carried out under the personal supervision of an architect recommended by the Society, but that owing to lack of funds they were not then justified in commencing the works.

The Committee expressed a desire that the necessary funds would be forthcoming, and wrote a letter to the Churchwarden (which was printed in the report), with a view to assisting in this direction.

The Church has been visited on behalf of the Society on several occasions. In July last, at the request of those interested in the building, the Committee arranged for an architect, who has had exceptional practical experience in the repair of ancient buildings, to visit the building, and furnish a detailed report, and estimate of the approximate cost of carrying out the necessary repairs.

It, however, learnt with disappointment, that the majority of the Restoration Committee had decided to employ an architect to carry out the work in the ordinary manner, and not under the personal direction of the architect on the spot, as recommended by the Society. The Committee, being most anxious that the repairs, which were urgently needed, should be carried out, was willing to do its utmost to assist, although it felt this arrangement to be unsatisfactory, and when the work was in progress, it arranged for the member who had previously visited the Church to meet the architect at the building. His report was a great disappointment to the Committee. The repair and strengthening of the nave roof had been completed, and the lead covering

nearly so. The ends of the main timbers were found to have perished in most cases, and new pieces of English oak have been spliced on and bolted to the sound timbers, and additional pieces of timber put on the top, to which the beams have been bolted. The purlins, which are framed into the main beams, have also been strengthened with pieces of oak on top, and bolted together at intervals.

This, of course, is the kind of work which the Society would have recommended, but, unfortunately, it has been carried out in an unsatisfactory manner. As the roof now is, it all depends on a few bolts to hold up the main beams on which the whole roof is supported. The splicing of the new ends to the main beams is much too vertical, and sufficient care has not been taken to make a good fit. The joints should have been made to fit accurately, in the form of a scarf, and bolted together at various points.

The new ends of the beams are built into the walls without a space being left at the side for ventilation. This will probably result in their early decay.

The roof was formerly covered with cast lead, of good substance, and in fair repair. This has been removed, and, with the exception of two or three sheets, and the gutters, has been replaced with milled lead. The roof is almost flat, and, where the sheets are not in one length, the laps are deficient. There was no excuse for using milled lead, as the old cast lead was, with the exception of a few sheets, in good condition, and infinitely better than the milled lead which has been used.

The south porch has been dealt with in the following manner. The east, and a portion of the west walls have been underpinned on a concrete foundation. The outer arch at the entrance has been rebuilt, and several new stones inserted. The flint facing over the arch has been rebbed, and the 'niche over opened out and refixed. Where the wall was broken and displaced over the west side of the arch, the inside of the crack has been filled up and some iron bands inserted in the wall. Sufficient bond has not been obtained between the solid portions of the wall, and what is obtained with the iron bands is very superficial.

A crack at the junction of the east wall with the wall of the aisle, has been treated in a similar manner.

There is a proposal to replace the stone vaulting of the porch, which, in the present weak condition of the walls, would be extremely dangerous if carried into effect.

The timbers of the porch roof have been repaired and strengthened with some new pieces, but the two beams which support the whole roof rest on the wall of the aisle and the south wall of the porch, which is only 1 foot 7 inches in thickness. Cross-beams should have been inserted under the existing beams, resting on the east and west walls, in order to tie them together, and prevent the roof from thrusting them out. The cast lead of the roof has been removed and replaced with milled lead.

Four built-up windows in the east and west walls have been opened out, and it is proposed to restore the missing mullions and tracery, which would result in the wall being further weakened.

It is proposed to remove the brick vault over the top of the turret staircase, and restore the battlemented termination which is supposed once to have existed.

The Committee considers it to be a very great misfortune that the funds, which are not sufficient to carry out the repairs necessary to make the building weather-proof, should be spent in useless "restoration," such as is proposed in the case of the turret staircase and the windows of the porch, and that such work as the repair and refixing of the lead heads and down pipes, the pointing of the parapets and walls, etc., should be overlooked.

Of course the Society can in no way accept any responsibility for the work, and the Committee has caused this fact to be made known to the authorities.

The Old Dutch House, Bristol.

In the last report (page 10) it was stated that there was a danger of this interesting and well-known house being destroyed for the purposes of street widening, and that the Society had petitioned the Town Council in favour of its preservation.

It is with much satisfaction that the Committee is able to report that the Town Council have decided to preserve the house. The ground floor will be set back to a new line of street, and the upper floors, which will not be interfered with, will be allowed to project over the pavement and be carried on columns.

The Committee considers this to be a practical way of dealing with the building, for not only will the street

widening be possible, and modern requirements thus met, but no old work will be destroyed, for the ground floor is at present filled with a modern shop front.

The Committee feels that a debt of gratitude is due to the Society's local correspondent, Mr. John E. Pritchard, F.S.A., for his energetic action in the matter.

Charney Manor House, Berks.

The Committee learnt that the ancient portion of this building was in need of repair, and with the consent of the owner it was visited on behalf of the Society.

It was found that the south wing is the only portion of the original house remaining.

The Archaeological Journal, published by John Henry Parker in 1858, gives a plan and elevation of the building, and describes it as follows :

"The present house consisted as usual of a hall and two transverse wings: the front of the hall has been rebuilt and its place supplied by a modern building divided into several rooms, but the foundations and part of the back wall appear to be original: it was about 36ft. \times 17ft. The two wings are nearly perfect, the front gables are in the same plane with the front of the hall, but they extend much further backwards, and the south wing, which adjoins the churchyard, is lengthened still more by the addition of a chapel attached to the upper room at the east end, the principal front of the house facing the west."

Further alterations appear to have taken place to the centre portion since 1858, and the north wing is entirely

built on modern lines, and no traces of the original work remain.

The south wing consists of a ground and upper floor. The latter contains the solar and the chapel. The ground floor is divided in a similar manner. The original entrance to the solar was at the west end of the north wall, by a flight of stone steps from the courtyard. The modern building extends further east, and the entrance door and steps are removed, and a new doorway formed further west, with access from the modern passage.

The solar retains its open timber roof in a very ruinous condition and covered with stone tiles. It has two tie-beams with king post and struts. The south wall has bulged outwards and pulled the tie-beams out of the north wall. They are propped at the centre from the floor. Both the tie-beams are broken under the king post, and the roof is in danger of collapsing.

The walls are about 2 feet 9 inches in thickness, and are built of rubble walling in thin courses, with ashlar dressings to the angles and openings.

The original building seems to have been built in the latter half of the thirteenth century, but the present west front appears to have been rebuilt in the fifteenth century, and, judging from the position of the tie-beams in the roof of the solar and an original window jamb in the south wall close against the west wall, the original building extended several feet further west.

The west wall is 2 feet 6 inches in thickness, and contains a double and single-light square-headed window near the floor, and another double-light window above

the level of tie-beam, where a floor has existed at some period. The wall is in fair repair and unplastered.

The north wall contains a fifteenth century fireplace, partly built up; the stone jambs and head are moulded and in good condition.

The south wall, where bulged outwards, is in a loose condition and allows of the wet penetrating. It contains, near the centre of room, a two-light thirteenth century window with internal stone arch. The jamb of a similar window exists at the west end, close against the present west front.

The east wall contains a pointed doorway into the chapel, and a two-light original window on the south side in fair repair. The wall is badly cracked over the doorway and on the north side of window.

The ground floor room is of the same size as the solar. It contains an original fireplace in the north wall, near the west end, partly built up. The stone jambs and head are in good condition. The latter is of the form known as the square-headed trefoil. Close to the west wall is a built up doorway, which gave access to the hall. The entrance is at the east end of the wall, and communicates with the passage in the modern house.

The west wall contains a two-light fifteenth century window, and the south wall an original single-light square-headed window. The east wall contains a two-light original window on the south side, its mullion is missing and the opening bricked up. On the north of the window a doorway leads to the room under the chapel.

The floor is of earth, very uneven.

The beams supporting the walls of the solar are of oak, and very massive. They are propped at the centre with posts.

The Chapel is about 10 feet \times 12 feet 6 inches. The east wall contains an original two-light window in good repair. The south wall has a single light original window and a piscina. There is an aumbry in the north wall. A bad crack occurs in the west end of the wall, where a settlement appears to have taken place. The roof is entirely modern and constructed of rough materials.

The space under the Chapel has a round-headed doorway in the east wall, with a narrow loop-hole on the south side. The north wall has a similar opening. The walls are in fair condition, and the floor is paved with brick.

The floor of the Chapel shews evident proof that this portion of the house has been burnt out. The joists are badly burned, as well as the oak lintels of the openings, and the plaster and stonework of the walls. The fire seems to have spread into the solar and destroyed the east bay of the roof, which is renewed with modern timbers.

The exterior of the Chapel is completely hidden by ivy, which has been allowed to get a firm hold of the walls and roof.

It is estimated that the cost of carrying out the repairs necessary to put the ancient portion of the building into a proper structural condition will amount to the sum of £350. The owner has informed the

Committee that he fears the expense is greater than he can afford, but that he will endeavour to do something to preserve the building, and would be willing to let the house on lease, with about five acres of grass and garden, to a tenant who would put the place in order.

Compton Church, Surrey.

The chancel of this Church has recently been repaired under the auspices of the Society. It is of great beauty and interest, and was probably built towards the end of the twelfth century. The eastern portion, containing the sanctuary, is raised one step above the choir, and is vaulted with a simple quadri-partite vault, with splayed ribs of clunch. The face of the vault forms the sanctuary arch, which is semi-circular in form, well moulded, and enriched with dog-tooth ornament. Over the vault, which is low, occurs a Chapel with entrance from a projecting staircase on the south side. An exterior doorway, now built up, exists in the south wall of the projecting staircase, and directly opposite there is a squint through the sanctuary wall. The Chapel is enclosed over the sanctuary arch with an oak balustrade of unique late Norman or early English workmanship, consisting of a series of round-headed arches, formed out of one piece of oak, with simple turned posts underneath.

A modern three-light window has been inserted in the east wall of the Chapel, filled with stained glass dated 1874. Underneath, in the sanctuary, occurs a small round-headed window, with splayed jambs on the inside. The south wall contains a two-light thirteenth century window

at the centre of the vault, and opposite, on the south side, is a three-light perpendicular window.

The north and south walls of the sanctuary are about 3 feet 9 inches in thickness, and the east wall 4 feet 6 inches.

A modern vestry has been added on the north side and an entrance formed through the wall of the choir.

The south wall of the choir contains a high lancet window near the centre, and a small two-light "low side" window against the chancel arch. The north wall contains a similar lancet window opposite the one in the south wall, and a smaller one against the chancel arch. The chancel arch, although slightly pointed, is apparently of similar date to the building.

The chancel is covered with a steep pitched roof of modern construction, in fair condition. The walls are strongly built of stone and flint, and finished with plaster on the inside.

Before the repairs were taken in hand unmistakable signs of active settlement shewed in the walls and vault. The east wall was cracked from the ground upwards, penetrating through the thickness of the wall. The south wall was also cracked from the ground upwards through the two-light window, and showed in the wall of the Chapel over. There was a more serious crack in the north wall, and cracks showed in the plaster of the sanctuary vault and over the lancet window at the centre of the north wall of the choir.

In carrying out the works of repair it was necessary to take up the modern tile floor in the sanctuary in order to

underpin the walls from the inside. The sanctuary arch and the ribs of the vault were carefully shored up on temporary wooden centres, and the jambs of the window and door openings secured with horizontal struts to prevent further movement.

On excavating the ground on the inside face of the wall it was found that the extra thickness of the wall on the inside face, supporting the vault over the sanctuary, was an addition, built on the top of the ground, and probably half a century later. The original walls go down about 4 feet below the floor level, and rest on made earth of a soft nature. On further excavation a good foundation of hard sand was found at about 6 feet below the floor level, on which the walls were ultimately underpinned on a good cement concrete foundation, 2 feet in thickness and fully 4 feet in width. After the under portion of the wall had been well pinned up on the new foundation, the inner portion supporting the vault was underpinned from the top of the concrete foundation, with hard bricks built in cement and sharp sand.

It was found during the underpinning of the east wall that the modern buttresses at the angles continue down to the same depth as the new underpinning, and also the modern facing to the east wall between the buttresses, but that no attempt had been made to underpin the wall.

The walls of the chancel west of the vault are fully 2 feet in thickness. The underpinning was done from the outside by the removal of the dry area, which was replaced at the finish.

The walls of the staircase on the south side, supposed

to have been built as a cell, are 1 foot 6 inches in thickness. They had to be carefully shored up on the outside and inside before underpinning, owing to their dilapidated condition. The work was done from the outside, during which the foundations of the steps leading up to the doorway on the south side were discovered.

The next portion of the work to be undertaken was the repair of the cracks in the walls, which were treated in the usual manner recommended by the Society.

During the rebonding of the sanctuary walls the plaster on the inside face of the original walls was discovered in a good condition, against which the inner thickness had been built to support the vault. Also two of the original Norman round-headed windows were brought to light on the outside faces of the north and south walls close to the east end of building—which have been left exposed. It was also discovered that the arch of the Norman window in the east wall of the sanctuary had been lowered fully 1 foot when the vaulting was constructed.

On examination of the plaster on the underside of vault, to repair the cracks, it was found to be a modern coat applied on the face of the old plaster. The modern plaster was removed and the ancient plaster exposed.

On the removal of the boarded floor in the chapel over the vault the latter was found to be roughly constructed with flint work and badly cracked on the north side. The pockets at the top of the vault at the angles were filled up with rubbish which was removed and replaced

with cement concrete. The crack in the vault was repaired by cutting out the loose flintwork at sides and filling in with cement concrete. The top of the vault against the east wall had been levelled to form a foundation—probably for the original altar. The piscina on the south wall of the chapel has a detached stone shaft underneath embedded in the wall, which probably belonged to an earlier detached piscina. The top portion of the shaft has been left exposed. After the repair to the vault was completed the boarded floor in the chapel was refixed. Unfortunately it is not the original floor.

The repair of the walls of the staircase, or cell, was next undertaken. The water from the down pipe in the west angle had been discharging on to the foundations, and had undermined the walls to a serious extent, and caused them to settle away from the main building. The inside of the west wall had to be rebuilt to about 4 feet above the floor. The cracks in the angle of the east and west walls have been repaired and bonded into the main building.

The stairs leading up to the chapel were modern, constructed of deal, and blocked up the inside of the squint, which looks into the Sanctuary. They have been replaced with a narrow oak staircase, which allows of the squint being seen. The plaster on the sides of squint appears to be the original, and also an oak board forming the front of the sill, which is worn away on the face, apparently by Pilgrims, who are supposed to have visited the Church in great numbers.

The wall over the doorway into the chancel, had been cut away to allow headroom for the staircase and was unsafe. A new concrete lintel has been inserted in place of the deal lintel and continued over the head of squint to bond the solid portions of the wall together. The exterior of the walls has been repaired and repointed where necessary and the drains conveying the rainwater from the building have been repaired where defective.

The plaster inside the building has been repaired and replaced where disturbed, and the whole of the walls given one coat of limewash. A second coat should be given when the new work has thoroughly dried.

The floors of the sanctuary and cell, which were removed in order to underpin the walls, have been relaid with local hand-made bricks on a six inch bed of cement concrete with a layer of broken brick underneath.

Cosby Church, Leicestershire.

The architects engaged to superintend the restoration and enlargement of this building kindly allowed the Society to see their plans and specification, but as the Committee could not agree with the works proposed, it arranged for one of its professional members to survey the church.

A report was prepared shewing how the Society thought the building should be dealt with. Copies of the report were sent to the architect and to the Curate-in-Charge, but, it is feared, without very satisfactory results, although the architects say they hope to follow the report in points of detail.

The Committee fears that the church will lose a considerable portion of the interest it now possesses as a result of the restoration.

Dartford Church, Kent.

This building was visited on behalf of the Society, and a report sent to the Vicar giving some advice of a practical nature.

The Vicar informed the Committee that he intended to bring the report before the vestry, and to endeavour to carry out the pointing of the outer walls by degrees, as suggested by the Society and as funds permitted.

Sackville College, East Grinstead.

The Committee was informed that this interesting group of buildings was in need of repair, and it therefore arranged for a professional member to visit.

The Committee was glad to find from his report that the buildings are in a fairly good structural condition. Some works of repair are, however, necessary.

As a result of some correspondence with the Warden, it has been arranged that a detailed report of the works essential for the preservation of the buildings shall be drawn up, and an estimate of the cost of carrying them out prepared, with a view to making an appeal to the public for the necessary funds. This is now being done, and the Committee hopes to refer further to the subject in the next report.

The works of repair would of course be carried out under the direction of the Society.

Exeter Cathedral.

There has been some correspondence in *The Times* between the Dean and the Society with regard to the treatment of the West Front of Exeter Cathedral.

The Committee considers that the destruction which is going on at the West Front is so serious that the Society ought not to allow the matter to rest, and it has therefore appointed an influential Sub-Committee of architects and laymen to go down and see the work and make a report. After the reception of the report the Committee hopes to take further action.

The subject will be fully dealt with in the next report.

Farnham Church Tower, Surrey.

There is a proposal to restore the lower, and ancient, portion of the tower of the parish Church of Farnham. The upper part is modern, having been built in 1860.

The tower was surveyed on behalf of the Society, and it was found to be in no way in a serious condition, the only thing it is suffering from being the recent surface decay of the stone. This is a difficulty which has presented itself in recent years only, and the large consumption of coal, with the consequent by-products of combustion, is the cause of the decomposition of the stone.

The condition of this tower is not nearly so bad as many towers the Society has had to deal with. A few stones will require to have their surfaces cut back until live undecayed stone is reached, and then the stone

should be dubbed out with blue lias lime and tiles. To cut the stones right out and insert new ones would be giving the tower an unnecessary amount of jarring, and the new stone could never be bedded so as really satisfactorily to take the place of the old one. Whereas if the beds are cleaned out, and pieces of slate and tile well bedded in mortar, are hammered into them, and on the projection thus formed small pieces of tile are bedded, the whole surface of the stone will be provided with a sound covering of a permanent nature.

Fortunately this method of treatment will not be required to any great extent, for most of the stone has only recently begun to decay, and therefore if the decay is checked nothing more will require to be done.

The Committee advised that the best method of preserving the stonework from further decay was to give it as many coats of lime solution, with baryta added, as the stone will absorb, and, if when the final coat was given it was found to be too white to soften it down with a toned wash.

The Committee believes the Society's report has been laid before the authorities by those interested in the matter, and it hopes that this will result in the scheme for restoring the tower in the old manner, by refacing it, being abandoned.

Fordington St. George Church, Dorchester, Dorset.

A scheme has been prepared for the restoration and enlargement of this Church. It is proposed to remove the chancel, which is of Georgian date, and to destroy

the interesting chancel arch, together with some remains of the Norman apse, etc.

The Committee addressed a letter to the Vicar asking that the matter might be reconsidered, but failing to receive a reply from him it wrote to the Bishop of Salisbury upon the subject. The Bishop promised to lay the letter before the Chancellor of the diocese, and the Committee trusts that the scheme will either be abandoned or modified.

It is interesting to note that the architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners has also raised an objection to the destruction of the chancel.

Glastonbury Abbey.

The following letter was addressed to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and we understand that it will be laid before a County Committee which is being formed :

Re GLASTONBURY ABBEY.

To the Right Rev.

The Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells.

MY LORD BISHOP,

The attention of this Society has been called to your Lordship's letter of the 8th inst., which appeared in the *Times* of the 11th inst.

At a Committee meeting of the Society held here yesterday the subject was carefully considered, and it was thought that we might venture to write to your Lordship and say how pleased the Society is to learn that you have taken such a bold step, and also to say that it would like to forward your object as far as lies in its power, and to refer to your Lordship's scheme in its

Annual Report, which it is just publishing. Before doing so, however, the Committee would like to have an assurance that the ruins will be preserved as far as possible in their authentic condition, and that no attempt will be made to bring any portion of the ruins back into use, as this would involve great modernisation, which would result in a lamentable loss of interest to these exceptionally valuable ruins.

Could your Lordship kindly inform the Society whether it may say that no attempt will be made to bring the ruins back into use?

Trusting that the Society may be forgiven for the liberty which it is taking in addressing your Lordship.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,
Your Lordship's obedient servant,
THACKERAY TURNER,
Secretary.

14th June, 1907.

St. Sampson's Church, Guernsey.

It was proposed to enlarge this building by pulling down the whole of the east end and extending the chancel and aisles eastwards. The church is undoubtedly one of great beauty and of exceptional architectural interest, and to treat it in the manner suggested would have robbed it of most of its value; the new work would have almost entirely overpowered the ancient work, and the new and the old work would have been most incongruous.

The Committee was glad to see from the published report made by Mr. T. Graham Jackson, R.A., that he attached great value to the building and was obviously loth to see it enlarged. He also urged the Rector and

Churchwarden to leave the old church alone and to build a new one, which is obviously the right course.

The granting of a faculty for the proposed enlargement was opposed by Mr. J. M. Lainé, who has interests in the Island, and owing to his action the application was withdrawn.

The Committee is greatly indebted to Mr. Lainé for his public-spirited action; which has resulted in the preservation of the building in its authentic condition.

It should be added that a petition against the enlargement of the old church was signed by a large number of parishioners.

Haddiscoe Church, Norfolk.

This interesting building was visited on behalf of the Society. It consists of a chancel, nave, with a north aisle, south porch, and western tower.

The walls of the chancel are built of flint, pointed externally and plastered internally. The east window retains its fourteenth century jambs with the internal angle shafts with moulded caps and bases, and the moulded arch above. The mullions and tracery of the window, which is of four lights, is unfortunately modern. There is a fine double piscina, of the fourteenth century, at the east end of the south wall. Two double-light windows in the south wall, and one in the north wall, are fifteenth century insertions, and have been restored in places. The chancel arch is of the fifteenth century. The roof is modern, of slight construction. The floor is

paved with good local tiles, but the windows are glazed with "Cathedral" glass. The fittings are entirely modern.

The walls of the nave are also built of flint, pointed externally and plastered internally. There are three double-light windows in the south wall, of fifteenth century date, which have been partly restored. There is an arcade on the north side of five bays. The east-most, west-most, and centre bays have the piers and arches moulded, the remaining two bays being plain. The clerestory is pierced with four circular windows, with cusps in the form of a quatrefoil. The south doorway is a very fine example of Norman work, and is in excellent condition. There is some very fine old iron-work fixed on a modern door. In a niche over the doorway is a figure, in relief, of great interest.

The roof of the nave is of interest and consists of five bays with principals in the form of a pointed arch, with the feet continued down the wall and supported on corbels.

The south wall is badly cracked at the west end, and slight cracks shew over the three windows. A crack also occurs in the west wall.

* There are two double-light thirteenth century windows in the north wall of the north aisle, and one three-light fifteenth century window in the west wall. A Norman doorway, now built up at the west end of the north wall, was evidently removed from the nave and re-used in its present position when the aisle was added. The roof of the aisle is in good repair, but the lead covering

is in a bad condition. The walls, with the exception of a crack in the west wall, appear to be sound.

The porch seems to have been added in the fifteenth century. It retains the original roof in fair condition, but its cast lead covering is beyond repair.

The Norman round tower is of great interest. It is strongly built of flint in regular courses, pointed externally, and in good condition. The belfry windows have double angular shaped heads, supported on a baluster shaft in the centre, with moulded cap and base. The tower is finished with a deep parapet, projecting on small corbels, and the surface is diapered with squares of dark and light flints.

The belfry contains a peal of five bells hung on an oak frame, which is cut into the walls at the angles to a great extent, and abuts against them in a dangerous manner.

It will be gathered from the above description that the building is in need of repair. The Committee had some correspondence with the Rector and the architect upon the subject. The latter was kind enough to allow the Society to see his specification, and the Committee made some suggestions, which, in the main, he promised to adopt. A small contribution has therefore been promised from the Society's Building Fund conditional upon the work meeting with its approval when completed.

Hanborough Church, Oxon.

There are three beautiful ancient screens in this church—one in the centre under the chancel arch, and

one on either side across the north and south aisles. The central screen is finished with a cresting over the cornice, and there is no loft or gallery over it. Both the side screens have bracketed projections on the western side with panelled soffits. One of them figures in Parker's *Glossary*. In both cases the cornice beam has been sawn off opposite the piers of the chancel arch.

Some of the timbers and beams are severely attacked by worms.

The screens are in urgent need of works of repair and strengthening, and, in addition, the church itself requires structural repairs.

The Committee is glad to be able to report that the Rector has decided to have the works recommended by the Society carried out under its supervision as soon as he can raise the sum of money needed for this purpose.

Hospital of St. John the Baptist, High Wycombe, Bucks.

Reference was made to these remains in the last report (pages 25-26). The works of repair are now in progress.

The ivy has been carefully removed and the accumulated rubbish carted away from around the building. The remains of the north-most bay of the west arcade, which unfortunately collapsed during last winter, have been carefully sorted over and most of the arch stones recovered. It will be quite possible to reconstruct the arch, and the wall over, with the old materials.

The two bays on the east side have been successfully

repaired. The piers have been underpinned and the wall above strengthened. The top of the wall has been protected with concrete, projecting beyond the faces of wall and covered with hand-made tiles, in order to protect the arches and piers, which are built of clunch. The old coat of limewash, with which the clunch was protected, had perished in places. This has been carefully removed without damaging the clunch, which will be treated with a coat of blue lias lime and baryta water for future protection. The caps of the piers, which are finely carved, are fairly well preserved notwithstanding their exposed position.

The bay on the west side, in falling, pulled over the remaining bay considerably, and this is now held up with shores on both sides. Its north-most pier is in a very shattered condition, and is held in position by a brick buttress on the west side. Before reconstructing the northern bay it will be necessary to get the existing bay into an upright position, and then to repair and underpin it on a good foundation.

Unfortunately the funds at the disposal of the authorities at the present time will not allow of the whole of the work being undertaken. It is therefore proposed to repair the remains of the north wall of the chapel in the first place, and to proceed with the remaining work when sufficient funds have been obtained.

In clearing away the rubbish a portion of the original inscription, carved in stone, of the foundation of the Grammar School was found, and this it is proposed to build into the north wall of the hall for preservation.

Several stone corbels have also been found, which probably supported the principals of the Hall roof.

The work to the arcade on the east side is being proceeded with.

St. Mary's Church, Hitchin, Herts.

Reference was made to this building in the last report (pages 26-28).

The works to the church tower are now practically completed, but they were not carried out under the direction of the Society, and it is in no way responsible for them.

Although much of the work which has been done meets with the Society's approval, the case is not one which, taken as a whole, can be held up as an example of how an ancient building should be treated. To take one point only—there has certainly been more refacing than would meet with the Society's approval.

Holyrood Abbey, N.B.

The proposal to restore Holyrood Chapel was one which caused the Committee considerable anxiety, although it had every confidence that the gentlemen upon whom the decision rested would not agree to anything which would result in the destruction of the veritable ancient work.

It will be remembered that last September an announcement was made to the effect that the late Earl of Leven and Melville, by a codicil to his will, gave instructions to his trustees to apply a sum not exceeding

£40,000 to restore Holyrood Chapel, for use as a Chapel for the Order of the Thistle, of which he was a member. The bequest was, however, conditional on Lord Balcarres and Sir John Stirling-Maxwell accepting responsibility for its supervision.

These gentlemen called in Professor Lethaby, F.S.A., to advise them upon the subject, and the following is his report, which has already appeared in the public press :

*Report to Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Bart., and Lord
Balcarres, M.P., by Professor Lethaby, F.S.A.*

The Abbey of Holyrood.

"In accordance with your instructions I visited the ruins on October 6th, when I met Mr. Oldrieve, his Majesty's principal architect for Scotland, who gave me much assistance and furnished me with exact particulars of the inclination of walls, etc.

"The ruin is the nave of the original church; the transepts and all east of them having disappeared. Of this nave with its aisles only the south aisle has retained its vault. This vault rests on the arcade which formed the south side of the nave proper, and on its own south wall. Besides this the outer wall of the north aisle remains, together with a large part of the west front and one of the west towers. To the east, where the nave opened into the transepts, it is now closed by a late wall and east window.

"The remaining south arcade of the nave, with the triforium above, is eight bays long; the openings of the triforium have been blocked up with rough masonry. The clerestory has entirely disappeared, so also has the west gable; the upper part of the windows of the latter is work of the time of Charles II.—curious, but interesting.

"Most of the existing work is of a very beautiful type of early thirteenth century architecture; one part of the south aisle wall is Norman, and the wall arcade of

the north aisle is of late transitional character. The west front is an elaborate piece of thirteenth century work, the west door being especially remarkable. After the splendid south doorway at Lincoln Cathedral it must be the noblest thirteenth century doorway in Great Britain.

"The present level of the area of the nave is about 1ft. 6in. above that of the original floor. This is shown by the bench under the wall arcade of the aisles, which is now nearly level with the ground. The external ground is nearly level with the heightened area. This area is now largely occupied by graves; the two eastern bays of the vaulted aisle are filled by the Royal vault and the Roxburgh "aisle."

"The walls and arches which remain are much decayed by the weather and disintegrated by the action of smoke deposits. Corrosion from the latter cause has been very great, and the surface is everywhere attacked and blackened. The carved capitals of the south arcade are mostly shapeless masses so far as the detail of the carving is concerned. At some time the pillars of the south arcade have been very largely patched with cement, across which joints have been neatly struck; the pillars, consequently, seem to be in a far better state than they are in fact:—see especially the second and third pillars from the east, where some of the cement has fallen away. The triforium stage is in still worse a condition (although, like the whole ruin, very carefully kept so far as its state allows); the last three bays to the east are formless in respect to mouldings and details, most of the shafts being just kept in place by metal bands.

"Throughout, the string mouldings and bases are to a large extent broken and the shafts of the arcade and windows lost.

"Most of the existing work is in various degrees out of the vertical, and some parts seriously so; thus the south wall of the nave, containing the triforium, leans inward from the third pillar to the fifth (counting from the east) from 14in. over the former to 11in. over the latter. The west wall with the tower leans to the west 4½in., and the

tower also inclines to the north 7in. The external wall of the north aisle leans out 4in. at the middle, the south aisle wall also leans outwards, and the east gable leans out 5in.

"I am of opinion that it would be impossible to restore the ruin for use as a modern chapel, without the ancient architecture almost completely disappearing in the process. The present decayed and leaning wall of the nave should not be loaded with a new clerestory and roof, to say nothing of a stone vault. To take it down and rebuild it would be impossible; so much would break up into powder in handling, so large a proportion of decayed stone, especially about the joints, would have to be cut away, so much would have to be discarded when once out of place as too shapeless and unsound.

"I am of opinion that an attempt either to add to the ruin without rebuilding it, or to rebuild it, would be disastrous to it as a great historical monument, and I cannot but earnestly recommend that no such scheme be entered on.

"The parts now remaining are but a small portion of the complete nave; the form of the clerestory and the west gable are unknown. The north door has decayed out of all definite form, the west front is greatly perished and has been largely patched up with cement. In the exquisite west door only about one quarter of the fine carving of the mouldings remains, and the carving of one of the four arch-orders has entirely disappeared.

"The problem of making a modern building out of an ancient ruin is so large and serious that other aspects than that of preserving the ancient fragments should be mentioned. There is the problem of making anew lost parts for which there is no sufficient evidence, such as the clerestory, the west gable, etc. There furthermore is the question as to what is to be done with work which might be called late and debased, such as the present east end, the Caroline repairs to the west front, and the late wall monuments of the interior.

"Then we must consider the magnitude and various

forms of necessary modern work, the new stonework, copied and conjectured, the wholly new ceilings or vaults, paving, glazing, woodwork, artificial lighting, etc. What is old would largely disappear in handling it, and that in turn would be swamped by entirely modern work.

"The question of cost is one which I had not the opportunity of considering with precise information before me; but bearing in mind that much of the existing stonework would have to be taken down, and that it would be impossible to use most of it over again, the adequacy of the sum of £40,000 for the purpose of rebuilding is a subject to which I must draw your careful attention, if you were to consider such rebuilding possible. The ruined nave is about 140ft. long including the west front, 70ft. wide over the walls, the crown of the ancient vaulting must have been about 62ft. above the pavement, and the apex of the roof and end gables some 24ft. more."

As a result of this report, Lord Balcarras and Sir John Stirling-Maxwell intimated that they had decided not to proceed with the restoration.

The Committee feels sure that the members of the Society, and all lovers of ancient buildings, will agree that the decision come to is the right one, for to carry out a scheme which would have resulted in the destruction of much original work, and the overwhelming with modern imitative work of as much of the ancient work as it might be found possible to retain, would have been disastrous from every point of view, whether historic, artistic, or architectural.

The Committee is deeply grateful to Lord Balcarras and Sir John Stirling-Maxwell for giving the principles for which the Society has laboured for so many years such practical support.

It was not to be supposed that their decision would be allowed to pass entirely unchallenged, and considerable correspondence has taken place in the public press upon the subject. The reasons for the decision have been appreciated by many of the correspondents, while some who opposed it did so on the ground that they objected to the loss of such a large sum of money. Others seemed to think that the ruins must either be restored or be allowed to disappear. They failed to see that there is a middle course, and one which the Society advocates in such cases, *viz.*, to carry out such works of repair, support, and protection to the ruins, as to indefinitely prolong their life.

Honington Church, Suffolk.

At the request of the Rector this building was surveyed on behalf of the Society. It consists of a chancel, with a modern vestry on the north side, nave, south porch, and western tower.

The chancel was probably built in the fourteenth century, and has a good two-light window of that date in the south wall, as well as a piscina at the east end of the wall. There is also a small doorway, which is probably an original opening, but the exterior masonry is modern. At the west end of the wall there is a two-light window, which appears to have been inserted at a later period into an old opening, the jambs of which still exist on the inside. The east wall has a modern three-light window.

The buttress at the angles, and the doorway in the north wall leading into the vestry, are modern.

The roof of the chancel, which is covered with hand-made tiles, is modern.

The nave was evidently built in the twelfth century, and retains the Norman arch leading into the chancel, as well as a very fine doorway on the south side, which is fortunately protected by the porch. The south wall contains two two-light windows of fourteenth century date. The north wall also has a window of that date, and one inserted in the fifteenth century. The north doorway, now built up on the inside, is of thirteenth century date.

The walls are built of flintwork, plastered inside and out, the inside plaster being ancient, above a modern cement dado.

The roof of the nave is modern, similar to that on the chancel.

The south porch is a beautiful piece of work, and was probably built in the fifteenth century. The front is ornamented with knapped flintwork, divided with masonry, and there are three niches over the entrance. The east and west walls are also faced with knapped flintwork and contain good three-light windows. The battlemented stone parapet has been rebuilt on the east side in brickwork. The roof is covered with lead.

The tower built in the fourteenth century is a fine example of the period, and is in good preservation. The tower arch is the full width of the interior and very beautiful. There is a projecting turret staircase, which

was probably added in the sixteenth century. It is carried up to the first floor level and roofed over with brickwork. There is a single light original window in the west wall at the ground level. The belfry stage has a two-light fourteenth century opening on each face in good preservation. It is finished with a battlemented parapet of later date. The roof is covered with cast lead.

There are three bells hung on a good oak frame, which unfortunately comes close against the walls.

With the exception of the altar and rails of the Georgian period, and the ends of four seats in the chancel, which are of the fifteenth century, with fine carved poppy heads and figures underneath, the interior fittings of the church are modern and of pitch pine.

The font is of the fourteenth century and of great interest.

The following are some of the works needed: The repair of several cracks in the walls, the formation of a surface channel round the walls of the chancel, the provision of wrought iron tie-rods to the roof of the chancel, the repair of the roof of the nave, the repair and underpinning of the porch, reconstructing the bell-frame so as to stand clear of the walls, renewing the bell fittings, repointing the tower in places, and repairing the lead work of the tower roof.

The Rector has informed the Committee that it has been decided to carry out the repairs in accordance with the Society's recommendations, and under its direction, as soon as the necessary funds are forthcoming.

Horsell Church, Woking, Surrey.

It is proposed to enlarge this church by the removal of the only authentic piece of ancient work remaining.

As the church stands, the chancel, with its aisle and vestries, is modern, the western tower and south aisle have been so thoroughly "restored" that most of what meets the eye is modern work, and only the north wall of the nave remains to show what manner of building the original one must have been. This wall, with the exception of one new window, and two windows which have been a little modernised, is an unspoilt example of old building. It has very fine buttresses, and a two-light fourteenth century window, which is a most perfect example of mediæval work.

Plans have been prepared for the enlargement of the church by the addition of a north aisle, which, if carried into effect, will result in the destruction of this ancient wall.

The Committee carefully studied the plan of the building, and came to the conclusion that there is no reason why the church should not be enlarged by extending it eastward. It is clear that the present chancel arch could easily be taken down and rebuilt in a line with the present east wall of the south aisle, and the chancel, and, if necessary, its aisle, extended eastward by the same amount as the chancel arch is moved eastward.

The Committee laid this suggestion before the Rector, and he placed it before the Building Committee, but they decided not to adopt it.

The Committee understands that there is considerable local feeling in opposition to the scheme of enlargement proposed, and there has been some correspondence in the local press with reference to it in which the Society has taken part. It is to be hoped that the matter will be further considered by the Building Committee, for to pull down the ancient north wall for the purpose of enlargement would indeed be very wrong when the required accommodation can be obtained in another way.

Indian Monuments.

The following extract from a letter from a member of the Committee (Mrs. Herringham) is given as being of exceptional interest.

“Not being an architect but only a lover of architecture, I am diffident about saying anything on the subject of the care of ancient buildings in India, but as I saw a great deal of what has been done recently by the Archæological Department there during a journey last winter covering more ground than usual in a pleasure trip, I should like to express my pleasure at finding that the neglect of which the English have often been accused is becoming rapidly a thing of the past.

“Very much most important work has been done recently by repairing the enclosing walls round temple compounds so as to stop depredations of building materials, by putting supporting buttresses or piers to tottering walls and roofs, by restoring dislodged stones to their places, and by inspiring locally a feeling of respect for these important national, religious, and artistic memorials.

“I had the pleasure of returning from Burmah with Mr. Marshall, the head of the Archæological Survey Department of the Indian Government, and some of his

staff. They had been taking measures to stop the encroachment of the jungle in one of the most important and earliest groups of Pagodas there—at Pagan—a length of temples eight miles lying by the river Irrawady. They had begun uncovering important half-buried buildings, and had arranged for trained caretaking and a rest house for visitors.

“The principles that actuate Mr. Marshall and his staff are to save all they can—but to introduce no imitative work in all that regards *ancient* work belonging to any cult or nationality, but the buildings of the Muslims of the Mogul Empire are sometimes treated differently. There has been no break in the traditions—the old workshops go on, and where pernicious European influence has not penetrated, native building is not much different now—and these buildings, which are many of them marble-cased, can be repaired as their original builders would have repaired them, and can hardly be treated in any other way without destroying their subtle curves, and their casket-like completeness. Of course conservation and repair not infrequently militate against the rather mournful picturesqueness of decay and age, but in India there must be efficient guarding and neatness, or the alternative is complete decay. Over a large number of buildings the Indian Government has very little control. All religious buildings used for worship belong to the sect that uses them. But even here the present staff is doing what it can by suggestion and diplomacy to prevent destruction and ignorant ‘restoration.’”

Ivychurch Church, Kent.

This interesting church was visited on behalf of the Society by a professional member, who found the Rector to be in sympathy with its aims. Unfortunately, however, the architect's proposals for dealing with the building are such as the Society could not possibly support. A

detailed report was therefore prepared and sent to the Rector, who, at the Committee's suggestion, kindly promised to lay it before the architect.

The Committee hopes the result will be the reconsideration of the matter, and the treatment of the building in a more conservative manner.

Spring Pew, Lavenham Church, Suffolk.

The Spring Pew appears to have been erected as a screen around the tomb of a wool merchant named Thomas Spring, who built the Spring Chapel on the south side of the chancel in 1525. In his will, bearing date 1523, he bequeaths his "body to be buried in the Church of Lavenh'm before the awter of St. Kateryn, where I will be made a Tombe with a Parclose thereabout at the discretion of myn executors." The tomb is gone but no doubt it stood in front of the window, which is slightly recessed below the sill, the face of which is moulded.

The pew is being, or has been, restored by replacing the missing ornamental portions. The actual work of making the new portions was well in hand before the Committee received information, and therefore it was too late to attempt to bring influence to bear to stop it. The Committee obtained an assurance from the carver that the new work would be left without any colouring matter, wax, or the like, so that the new work which has been introduced will be obvious, for, at any rate, a considerable time.

The Committee feels that such new work cannot but

detract from the interest of the ancient work, and that it certainly will not add to the beauty of the pew.

Leake Church, Yorkshire.

The Vicar appealed to the Society for assistance in the repair of this church, which resulted in it communicating with the architect upon the subject. The architect gave satisfactory replies to the Committee's enquiries, and very kindly met a representative of the Society at the building.

The church is of exceptional interest, and the Committee is glad to be able to state that the works of repair proposed are entirely satisfactory. The architect hopes to be able to arrange for a gentleman who has done similar work for the Society to supervise the repairs on the spot.

The Committee has much pleasure in recommending the case as being one which members of the Society might support, with the knowledge that only essential works of repair will be undertaken, and nothing in the way of "restoration" attempted.

Lilbourne Church, Rugby.

This church was visited on behalf of the Society, and the works of repair are now proceeding under the direction of the architect on the spot in consultation with the Society.

The church consists of a chancel, nave with north and south aisles, south porch, and western tower.

The greater portion of the building appears to have been built in the fourteenth century, but there is evidence of a thirteenth century building having existed.

The walls of the south aisle were found to rest on a very soft bed of clay close to the surface of the ground, but on further excavation a hard bed of blue clay was discovered about 5 feet below the floor level, and on this the walls have been carefully underpinned on a good foundation. The walls are built of rubble masonry, which were bulged in places through the defective pointing. All such portions have been reset where necessary.

The eastmost window in the south wall retains its fifteenth century arched head and tracery, the mullion was missing and a deal frame fitted into the opening. This has been removed, a stone mullion inserted, and the window reglazed with its old glass in leaded lights. The east window retains its old stone jambs, and it had been fitted with a deal frame, which supported the wall over—built of brickwork. A new oak frame has been fixed in the opening, and a good lintel, formed with tiles bedded in cement and sand, constructed over it. Portions of the exterior facing of the walls showed signs of decay. They have been brushed over and treated with baryta water in order to harden the surface and arrest further decay.

The lead on the roof of the aisle was badly worn and cracked, and it has been recast on the site and relaid on the old boarding. The gutter at the back of the parapet has been reconstructed. The roof timbers were found to be in a sound condition.

On examining the foundations of the piers of the south arcade of the nave they were found immediately under the floor level resting on a soft bed of clay. The arches and piers were shored up and underpinned on a concrete foundation as in the case of the aisle walls. The abutments were also underpinned. The westmost pier was very much out of the perpendicular, and it has been carefully moved into an upright position and underpinned. The wall above the arcade was in a shattered condition. Fortunately the outside is faced with ashlar, having good bonding stones into the wall. The loose walling has been removed from the inside in sections, and the solid portions well bonded together. The outside has been repointed and the plaster on the inside, where disturbed, replaced in a similar manner to the original.

The east wall over the chancel arch was badly cracked and displaced by the movement in the north and south walls. The solid portions have been rebonded together from the outside in order not to disturb the internal plaster, which contains wall paintings of an early period, limewhited over, which it is hoped to uncover when the work of repair is completed.

The north arcade and wall over appear to have been rebuilt in the seventeenth century, and are in an upright position on a good foundation.

The timbers of the nave roof were in a good condition, with the exception of the ridge piece of the eastmost bay, which was badly perished. This has been replaced with a new piece of English oak, and the other timbers repaired where necessary. The boarding has

been refixed and the lead recast on the site and relaid. The gutters have been reconstructed. The parapets, where loose, have been refixed, and repointed. The lead heads and down pipes have been repaired, and new spouts of cast lead provided where necessary.

The foundation of the north aisle, where defective, has been underpinned. The north doorway, which was blocked up with lath and plaster on the inside, and was found to have a pointed arch in good preservation, has been uncovered and a new oak door fixed into the opening. The exterior surfaces of the walls have been repaired and repointed, and the ground excavated to the level of the floor. '

The cracks in the walls of the tower have been repaired, the modern doorway under the west window built up, and the walls repointed externally where necessary. The floor of the ringing chamber has been repaired and strengthened.

The perished boarded floors in the nave and aisles have been removed, and the floors renewed with oak boards, laid on a bed of concrete.

The oak pews have been repaired and adapted to modern requirements. The floors of the passages, which are of hand-made tiles, have been relaid on a bed of concrete, and the pulpit has been repaired and refixed. The plaster on the walls has been repaired and lime-washed afresh.

The gallery at the west end of the nave has been removed, the tower arch opened up, and the stonework repaired.

The masonry of the nave arcades, chancel arch, and tower arch, are covered with limewash, which it was found undesirable to remove, as the surface of the stone is too soft for exposure. The limewash has been carefully cleaned and renewed.

The leaded glazing of the windows, which are filled with old clear glass, has been restopped and repaired where necessary, and new casements have been provided for ventilation.

The Committee has received the following letter from the Vicar :

Lilbourne Vicarage, Rugby.

December 8th, 1906.

DEAR MR. TURNER,

You will be glad to know that we are making a start with the Church on Monday.

Mr. Weir was here two days this week, being joined by his assistant who has since come into residence. Money is coming in but very slowly and in dribblets. We have not yet got half the amount necessary, £790.

The more I see of the arrangements of your Society the more thankful I feel.

I am,

Yours very truly,

T. R. PRICE.

Wall Paintings, Little Hampden Church, Bucks.

The walls of the nave of this church, which is of thirteenth century date, were recently limewashed, which loosened portions of the old limewash and brought to light traces of ancient wall paintings.

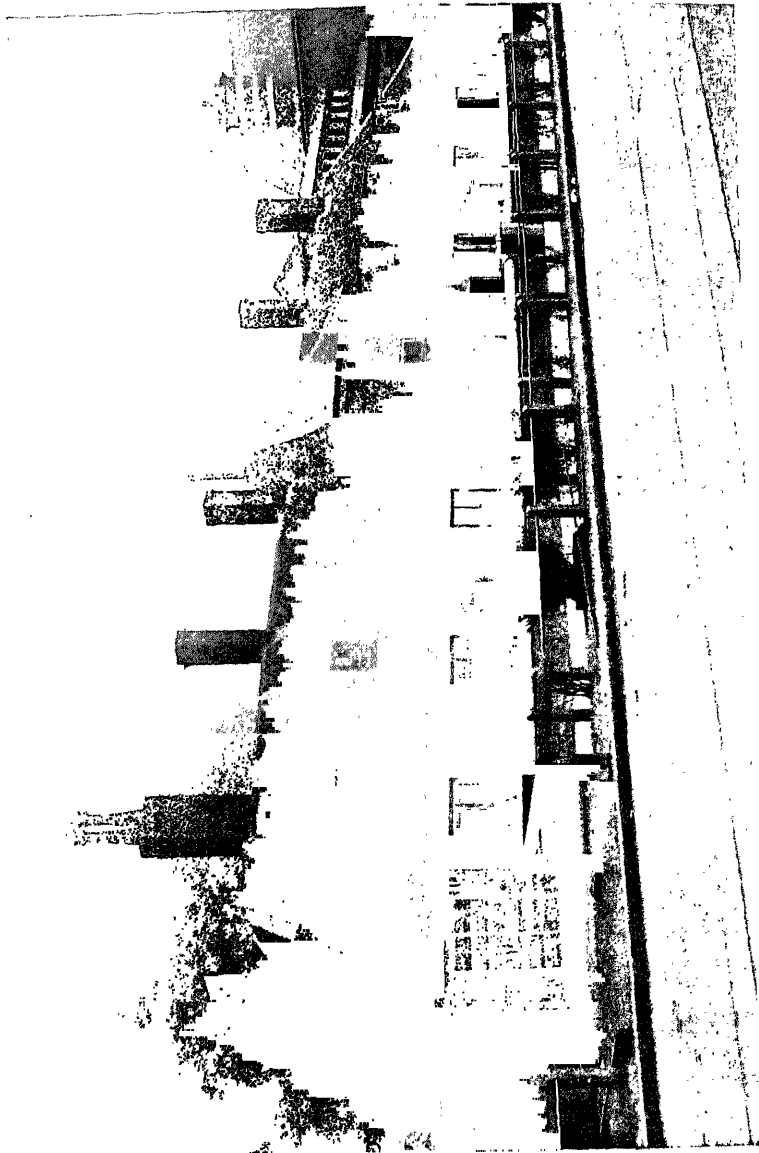


Photo. H. S. Jardine.

COLFE'S ALMSHOUSES, LEWISHAM.

The Rector appealed to the Society for advice as to how the paintings should be treated, and with the object of giving this help the building was visited.

It was found that on the west side of the north doorway a well-drawn figure, about life size and painted on the original plaster, had been uncovered. The heads of two other figures are also exposed on the east side of the doorway, but they are in rather a bad condition.

On the south wall, between the two windows, traces of other figures are visible, much smaller in size, but apparently contemporary with the paintings on the north wall. These appear to have been brushed over with limewash and another painting substituted—evidently St. Christopher crossing the stream with the infant Saviour on his shoulder. This painting is very faint, and appears to be badly perished.

The surface over the chancel arch retains the limewash in good condition, and it is more than likely that the space was utilised for painting.

The Committee recommended that the paintings should be treated in the manner set forth in the leaflet issued by the Society on the subject of "The Preservation of Wall Paintings," and at the request of the Rector it has arranged to supervise the carrying out of the work

London, Colfe's Almshouses, Lewisham.

As a result of the public enquiry by the Charity Commissioners, which was referred to in the last report (page 29), a scheme was prepared which ensured the

preservation of the buildings provided a sum of money could be raised.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to the Committee to be able to state that the necessary sum was forthcoming, partly by public subscription, and partly from funds at the disposal of the Trustees of the Lewisham Parochial Charities. The almshouses have been repaired, and are again occupied by their former inmates.

A view of the almshouses, showing them after reparation, is given.

Madley Church, Hereford.

This large and beautiful building was referred to in the last report (pages 29-30).

The works of repair necessary have been carried out under the personal direction of the architect on the spot, in consultation with the Society.

The cracks in the tower were repaired by cutting out the loose masonry on each side of the crack, from the inside face, and rebonding the solid portions of the wall together. The parapet of the tower was badly cracked and displaced on the south side, close to the west angle. A portion was refixed in order to bond it together, and the whole of the parapet has been repointed. The flagstaff on the north-east angle has been refixed on an oak post, carried down inside the belfry, and secured to oak bearers fixed into the angle of walls. The asphalt of the roof was repaired where cracked, and made watertight. The roof of Jacob's tower was repaired and made watertight around the post of weather vane.

Two new beams, of seasoned English oak, were inserted underneath the beams of the belfry, in order to strengthen them and prevent vibration from the bells when ringing. The bell-frame was strengthened and bolted down to the beams with long bolts through the height of frame and secured to the underside of the new beams.

The foundations of the church have been repaired, the walls repointed in places, where necessary, concrete channels provided round portions of the building, the eaves gutters and down pipes attended to, the roof tiling repaired in places, the turrets and pinnacles over the gable between the nave and chancel repaired, and the floor at the west end of nave repaired, and the step and tiles refixed where displaced.

Marton Church, Lincs.

In the report for 1905 (page 53) it was stated that the Vicar had appealed to the Society to assist him to bring about the repair of Marton Church, and that it had a long correspondence with the architect upon the subject, with the result that it came to the conclusion that he was in favour of "restoration," and proposed to carry his belief into practice in the case of this building.

The Vicar has again communicated with the Society, and has informed it that he is anxious to have the works of repair which are needed carried out in accordance with its advice, and under its direction.

This is a matter of great satisfaction to the Committee, as the building is one of considerable interest, the tower

containing remains of Saxon work. It is therefore desirous of recommending the case, as it is anxious that the sum required should be forthcoming so that the building may be put into a good structural condition.

Newport Church Tower, Salop.

With the exception of the tower the whole of the church is modern, having been rebuilt in recent years.

The Rector appealed to the Society for advice as to the condition of the tower, and it was surveyed on behalf of the Society. It was found to be a large and interesting building of the fourteenth century. The walls are 4 feet thick, and are well built of a local red sandstone in ashlar courses. Unfortunately the external surface of the stone is badly perished and worn by the action of the weather.

The internal dimensions of the tower at the ground level are 17 feet 5½ inches by 16 feet 10 inches, and its total height is nearly 70 feet.

The arch leading into the nave is the original one, and extends the full width of the tower, and is fairly lofty. The west doorway is a later insertion of the seventeenth or eighteenth century, and has been restored. The four-light window over it retains its original jambs and arch. A circular stone staircase is formed in the south-west angle and leads to the top of the tower. Its original entrance was from the interior of the tower at the floor level, but this is now built up and an external entrance formed on the south side, with a flight of stone steps to the ground level.

The first floor, used as a ringing chamber, contains the works of the clock. There are dials on the north, south, and west faces. The walls are recessed at the back of the dials, and evidently at one time contained window openings.

In the north-west angle of the tower, at the first floor level, there is a small chamber corbelled out between the buttresses, which is supposed to have been the cell of an anchorite.

The belfry stage has two-light original windows on each face and contains a peal of eight bells, in an oak frame, in excellent condition.

The embattled parapet appears to have been added in the year 1662.

With the exception of the turret, which shows signs of uneven settlement, the walls of the tower appear to be in excellent condition, and do not call for attention beyond the treatment of the external surfaces, where the weather has eaten into the facing to a great extent. The south and west faces above the first floor level are most affected.

The method of repair generally recommended by the Society in such cases was suggested. The decayed and missing portions of the facing would be made good with tiles and mortar, and then the whole covered with a preservative of lime and baryta, so as to prevent decay in future. Very little new stone would be introduced, the aim being to allow of the greatest amount of the existing facing being retained without weakening the fabric.

The Rector has received the Society's report in a sympathetic manner, but has informed the Committee

that he fears it will not be possible to undertake the work to the tower at present, as there are other debts which must be liquidated before it is taken in hand, but that he will write as soon as he is in a position to proceed further in the matter.

Rauceby Church Tower, Lincolnshire.

A description of this building was given in the report for 1905 (pages 56 and 57).

The works of repair to the tower are now proceeding under the direction of the architect on the spot in consultation with the Society.

A good detached scaffold was erected around the outside of the tower and the lower portion of the spire. The tower arch was boarded up with a temporary wood screen to prevent the dust entering the church.

On examination, the foundation of the tower was found to be most excellent, and to consist of solidly built stonework on a hard bed of sand.

A crack in the west wall, over the two-light fourteenth century window, appears to have occurred, when the window was inserted, through careless workmanship. The loose walling at the side of the jambs and over the arch has been removed from the inside face and the solid portions of the wall bonded together. Above the first floor level the cracks in the west wall proved to be of a very serious nature. They occurred at the angles and at the middle of the wall, and it was found necessary to renew the inside of the wall to the back of the outside facing stones up to the level of the belfry windows. The

work was done in sections, commencing at the bottom of each crack and working upwards in short heights at a time. The outside facing has not been disturbed, beyond the insertion of a few necessary bonding stones. The inside face required new stones, owing to the old stones being too small to obtain a sufficient bond.

The east wall was badly cracked close to the angles and had to be treated in a similar manner up to the belfry windows. Portions of the north and south walls were also found to be loose, especially under the belfry windows, and these were cut out from the inside face and the solid portions rebonded together.

The circular stone staircase in the south-west angle was badly cracked from the ground floor upwards. The stone lintels over the doorways, where cracked, have been cut out and keyed together with concrete. The stone steps where they were broken have been strengthened by the insertion of concrete corbels on the underside well bonded into the walls. The steps which were badly worn have been repaired with fine concrete composed of granite dust and Portland cement.

Four oak beams supporting the bell-frame were in a very unsafe condition and have been renewed with new beams of English oak twelve inches square, resting on the east and west walls. The ends of the beams, where they are built into the walls, are ventilated with an air space at the sides and back to prevent their decay.

The lower portions of the belfry windows had been blocked up on the outside with modern stonework in order to prevent the wet driving into the beams and

bell-frame. This has been removed and the wall built up on the inside to serve the same purpose. The louvres of the windows were of deal, and much decayed. New louvres of English oak have been fixed in the openings for their full height.

The internal stone arches over the east and west windows were badly displaced owing to the settlement of the walls underneath. Temporary wood centres were inserted and the displaced stones refixed in their proper positions. The cracks, which continued upwards into the base of the spire, have been repaired by bonding the solid portions of the wall together.

The bottom spire lights have large double-light openings, through which the wet had penetrated and disintegrated the walls underneath. The lower portions of the openings are filled up with modern masonry, behind the mullions, which prevents the wet driving in to a great extent. The portions of the walls, where perished, have been removed from the inside face, and the solid portions bonded together.

The masonry of the spire was found to be in a good condition, with the exception of about 7 feet at the top, where the iron rod of the weather vane was built in. The iron had corroded and displaced the stones in a most dangerous manner, and to such an extent that it could not have held together for many years.

A scaffold was erected on the sound portion of the spire, underneath the top, and carried up to the top of the weather vane. The top portion was then removed and all the iron cramps cut out of the stones, several of

which had burst the stones asunder. A centering of slates was then fixed across the hollow portion of the spire and filled in solid with cement concrete. A new rod of hardened copper was provided and fixed on the top of concrete with a copper tape connected to the bottom of the rod and the old lightning conductor. The top of the spire was rebuilt around the rod and each course cramped and dowelled together with copper. A new steel bearing was fitted into the weathercock, which was regilded.

The pointing on the outside of the spire was found to have perished. The beds and joints were cleaned out and well wetted, and the whole of the spire repointed with ground blue lias lime and sharp coarse sand, finished flush with the face of masonry. The walls of the tower outside and inside were repointed in a similar manner, and kept from drying too quickly by wetting with a garden syringe for several weeks afterwards.

The work of repairing and strengthening the old oak bell-frame, rehangng the four bells on new bearings and fittings, and quarter turning and tuning them, is now being proceeded with, and the bells will be put into thorough ringing order.

St. Bees' Church, Cumberland.

A short time since a proposal was made for the restoration of the very fine west doorway of this church, and an application was made to the Chancellor for a faculty for this purpose. A design for a new tympanum

was shown, and the replacing of missing shafts was also contemplated.

The Committee addressed a letter to the Chancellor in opposition to the restoration, and the Chancellor adjourned the matter when it came before the court in order that another scheme might be prepared.

The architect who was called in advised that the carved tympanum should not be added and that the missing shafts should not be replaced. He, however, unfortunately suggested that the existing stone lintel should be taken out and the doorway restored "to its ancient form by the hanging of new oak doors carried right up to the crown of the arch." This necessitates other alterations.

The Committee addressed a further letter to the Chancellor, and urged that the doorway might fairly be looked upon as a national monument of great value, and that it ought to be preserved in its entirety with the least possible interference or alteration. Therefore, that nothing should be done to the doorway in the way of adding missing features, such as shafts, that the existing lintel ought on no condition to be cut away, as it materially helps to steady the arch, and that the Society saw no reason for removing the filling in above it.

The Committee further urged that it would be wise to treat the stonework with either baryta or lime and baryta, with a view to preventing further surface decay.

The Committee felt that it would not be justified in incurring the expense of further opposing the issue of a faculty, and it was granted.

While the Committee is glad that the scheme for adding a carved tympanum, and for replacing the missing shafts was withdrawn, it considers the present scheme is an unnecessary and harmful interference with this beautiful Norman doorway.

Stanhope Chapel, Shelford Church, Notts.

At the request of the Earl of Carnarvon (conveyed through a member) this building was surveyed on behalf of the Society and a report furnished.

The Stanhope Chapel is situated at the east end of the south aisle of the church, and is enclosed with a modern screen on the north and west, erected in 1877, when the monuments were removed from the chancel and placed in their present positions.

The arrangement and condition of the monuments call for attention. The chief one is a fine alabaster monument to the memory of the wife of Sir Michael Stanhope, dated 1587. A recumbent figure lies on the top, and on the front her eight children are shown in relief. At one end are the figures, swathed in grave clothes, of the three youngest children, who died in infancy, and the other end contains coats of arms. The faces and heads of the figures are mutilated. The present position of this monument, close against the south wall, prevents its being seen to advantage, and it is somewhat dilapidated.

To the west of the above-mentioned monument, and about 6 inches above the floor, is a black marble memorial slab to the Hon. Charles Stanhope, dated

1711-1712, bearing an inscription and the Stanhope arms, and on the north side of this is an alabaster stone, with an inscription around the edge, and dated 1554, to Beatrix Ranston, mother of the Lady Stanhope.

There is also a memorial stone on the floor fixed under the east window, and dated 1770, in addition to several monuments fixed on the east and south walls.

The floor of the chapel, which is paved with black and red Staffordshire tiles, shows signs of settlement, as if the vault underneath was giving way.

Suggestions were made in the report for re-arranging the positions of some of the monuments so that they may be better seen and protected, and also for the treatment of the chapel with the object of improving its appearance, which, owing to the bad "Cathedral" glass in the windows, and the colour of the wash on the walls, is very dismal.

With regard to the church itself, with the exception of the tower, which is a fine example of fifteenth century work, the building has to a great extent been robbed of all its interest through an extensive "restoration" which took place in 1877-1878.

The Society's report is now under consideration.

Snaith Church, Yorks.

This church was visited by the Society at the request of the authorities. It is a building of considerable size, and consists of a chancel with north and south chapels and sacristy, a nave with transepts and aisles, and a western tower.

The tower and westernmost bay of the nave arcades

belong to an earlier church of the thirteenth century, which appears to have been rebuilt at the beginning of the fifteenth century.

The whole building was restored about 1870, when the east end of the chancel was rebuilt and a new five-light window inserted. The roofs were renewed with varnished pitch pine, with slates to the nave and chancel, and lead to the aisles and transepts. The fittings throughout are modern, and the windows are glazed with "Cathedral" glass.

It will be seen from this brief description that the building has suffered considerably from "restoration." It, however, still retains much that is of interest.

The works now required are chiefly the repair of cracks in the walls, and the treatment of the external surfaces which are decaying. The repairs needed have been fully described in the report which has been made by the Society, and which is now being considered by the Vicar and Churchwardens.

South Pickenham Church, Norfolk.

This church has been repaired under the auspices of the Society in conjunction with the architects. The work was done by local workmen.

The church is of great interest and consists of a chancel of the fourteenth century, with a modern vestry on the north side, nave, north porch, and western round tower. The Norman tower was found to have been built against the nave, from which we may infer that the west wall of the nave, at any rate, is Saxon,

but, unfortunately, it does not retain any of its original windows.

The walls are built of flintwork, pointed on the outside, and plastered internally.

The chancel had a modern flat pitched roof, covered with pan tiles, at the level of the springing of the east window. The nave had an eighteenth century roof somewhat higher than the chancel, and covered with slates. The porch appears to have been built in the eighteenth century, and was covered with pan tiles.

The walls of the chancel were found to be in fair condition. The east wall was cracked under the window, and also the south wall, where a built up round-headed opening occurred, close to the west end and about 5 feet above the floor. The cracks have been repaired in the manner usually adopted by the Society, by cutting out the wall on the inside face on each side of crack, and bonding the solid portions together. A new roof of English oak has been constructed to a higher pitch to allow of the head of the east window, with its fine tracery, being seen from the inside. The gable over the window has been raised and covered with its original stone weathering so far as it existed, the upper portion being supplemented with new stones and surmounted by a cross. A tie-beam of English oak has been inserted at the west end to relieve the walls of the thrust of roof—both the north and south walls lean outwards. The modern vestry on the north side has been pulled down and a new oak door provided and fixed in the old doorway. The outside of the walls have been carefully

repaired, and the flintwork repointed with ground blue lias lime and sharp coarse sand, finished flush with the general surface of the flintwork.

The north and south walls of the nave were badly cracked in several places, from the ground upwards and over the windows, and the flint facing was in places bulged away from the wall. The walls have been carefully repaired and bonded together, and the facing reset where necessary and pointed on the outside. The buttresses have also been underpinned and repaired, and, in the case of the brick buttresses, the sloping tops have been covered with stone weathering. During the repair of the north wall portions of a fourteenth century two-light window were found built into the wall. These have been carefully put together and built into an old opening, which was built up at the east end of the north wall.

The deal roof of the nave has been replaced with an oak roof constructed to a slightly higher pitch than the chancel roof, and covered with pan tiles. The ground has been excavated from around the building, and a concrete channel constructed below the floor level, and faced with stone, to falls, with drains to convey the water away from the building.

The boarded floors in the nave were found to be completely perished, owing to want of ventilation. They have been renewed on a 6 inch bed of concrete with dry rubbish underneath, and covered with English oak boards set with mastic and nailed into the concrete.

The plaster on the walls has been carefully repaired

and the loose portions of limewash removed. During this process a wall painting of a figure more than life size was uncovered on the south wall close against the doorway, the subject of which is not clear. Portions of texts have also been exposed in other places. They have been treated with a preservative to prevent further decay, and the surface of the walls, otherwise, twice limewashed, and finished to a warm white tint.

The leaded glazing of the windows has been carefully repaired and new casements provided for ventilation. The deal doors have been replaced with oak.

The repair of the round tower has been a most extensive piece of work. The cracks penetrated through the thickness of the wall from the ground upwards in several places, which necessitated the renewal of most of the inside of the tower to the back of the outer facing, up to the level of belfry. The work was done in sections, working upwards from the inside face. During the process it was discovered that the west wall of nave was older than the tower and retained portions of the exterior plaster, against which the tower was built. The existing doorway from the tower into the nave has a pointed arch, over which a round-headed arch of earlier date was discovered, which has been left exposed to view on the surface of the wall.

The walls of the belfry have been thoroughly repaired and bonded together over the window openings, with continuous lintels of brickwork, built with Portland cement, and sharp coarse sand. With the exception of the east window the stone mullions and tracery of the

windows were missing. They have been renewed and oak louvres fitted to the openings to prevent the wet driving in.

The lead on the roof has been removed, the boarding repaired, the gutters reconstructed, and the leadwork relaid in a proper manner, with cover flashings at junction with the parapets. The brick parapets have been repaired and refixed where necessary, and the flint facing of the tower repointed with ground blue lias lime and sharp sand, finished flush with the face of wall. A new oak floor and beams have been inserted in the ringing chamber, and the ground floor of the tower fitted up as a vestry.

Stanford-on-Avon Church, Rugby.

The Church at Stanford-on-Avon is a large and interesting stone building of the fourteenth century, consisting of a chancel, nave with north and south aisles, south porch, and western tower. It has to a large extent escaped "restoration."

The building was visited on behalf of the Society, and a report prepared and sent to the Vicar.

The walls of the building appear to be in a sound condition.

The east window of the chancel is of five lights, with interlacing tracery. The lights are blocked up with brickwork to about five feet above the sill, above which they are filled with portions of very fine stained glass. There are three three-light windows in both the north and south walls. The eastmost one, in each wall, is

built up, and a monument erected on the inside. The other windows are filled with portions of stained glass. There is a Priest's doorway in the south wall, and a small window at the west end near the floor level. The roof is of flat pitch with moulded beams, and has a modern high pitched roof over it, covered with small green slates, which are very much displaced and perished. The chancel arch is very fine and has the original screen and doors.

The nave arcades consist of five bays. The clerestories have two-light square-headed windows contemporary with the building. The fifteenth century roof of the nave is very fine. It is of flat pitch and has six good tie-beams with jack-legs and brackets, supported on carved oak corbels. This ancient roof is covered by a modern roof of steep pitch, similar to that on the chancel, and in the same condition.

The font retains its fourteenth century bowl, but the shaft is modern.

There is a Georgian gallery at the west end of the nave, containing a small organ, with an elaborate case of very early date.

The aisle windows are beautiful examples of fourteenth century work, and the south doorway and porch are of contemporary date. The aisle roofs are of the fifteenth century, of oak, flat in pitch.

There are several interesting monuments and tombs in the church. One in the south aisle is of the fourteenth century, and has a stone effigy—probably that of the founder.

The tower is a very fine example of fourteenth century work. There is a peal of five bells

The general condition of the building is good, but portions of it are in need of repair, more particularly the roofs and glazing.

The Committee hopes the Vicar will decide to have the building repaired in accordance with the advice given in the Society's report.

Thompson Church, Norfolk.

For many years past the Committee has been anxious as to the fate of this Church. It has recently been visited again by the Society, at the suggestion of a member who thought that something might be done to bring about the repair of the building.

The Church consists of a chancel, nave, south porch, and western tower, and is of fourteenth century date.

The walls of the chancel are built of flint, plastered internally and pointed externally. They appear to be sound with the exception of slight cracks under the east window, and under the west window on the north side. The east window is of five lights with good tracery, filled in with brickwork and plastered. The mullion on the north side is replaced with oak, and a portion of the tracery at the springing is missing. The inner face of the mullions at the springing of head are broken by the iron cross bar now removed.

The north wall contains two three-light windows with

good tracery. Both the lights and tracery are filled in with brickwork and plastered. At the east end of this wall there is a built-up doorway in connection with a vestry, or sacristy, the foundations of which exist.

The south wall has two corresponding windows. The easternmost one is shortened and a good sedilia and piscina formed underneath, with a Priest's doorway a little to the west. At the west end of the wall is a built-up low square-headed window.

The chancel retains its original steep pitched roof with well-moulded principals, but without tie beams; they are framed with moulded collars and purlins. The roof is plastered at the level of the collars, and behind the moulding of the principals on the face of the rafters. The timbers are whitewashed. The south side of the roof is covered with hand-made tiles, and the north with pan tiles. The rafters on the south side have sunk and the tiles are badly displaced and admit the wet. The north side appears to be in a better condition.

The floor of the chancel is paved with modern brick, with some memorial slabs in the sanctuary. The altar and rails are Jacobean and in good preservation. The plaster on the walls is in a fair condition, and the windows are glazed with clear glass in leaded lights.

The chancel arch is nearly the full width of the chancel and is very lofty. The wall over it is badly cracked.

The nave is very lofty and has a steep pitched roof, covered with thatch in bad repair. The north wall contains a good three-light fourteenth century window at

the centre, and another at the east end. There is a north doorway at the west end with a two-light fifteenth century window over.

The east jamb of the easternmost window shows traces of the doorway to rood-loft, with slight cracks over. The opening at the level of rood-loft also shows in the north wall, about 12 feet above the floor, with a projecting stone sill, now built up.

The south wall, which is in need of repair, contains a three-light fourteenth century window at the centre, and a doorway at the west end. At the east end of this wall there is a fifteenth century transept. The opening through the nave wall is formed with a segmental arched head. The roof is modern, of deal, with the exception of one of the original principals against the south wall. It is covered with cast lead, which admits the wet. A five-light fifteenth century window occupies the full height of the south wall of the transept, and is in need of repair. There appears to have been a window in the eastern return wall of the transept, which is built up the full thickness of the wall. The west wall is bulged and cracked and needs repair.

The tower arch is lofty and the full width of the tower. The west wall of the nave shows serious cracks. The north and south walls of the tower are cracked in places, and need repair. The west wall contains the original doorway, but the door is modern. There is a slight crack on the north side of the outer arch of the doorway. The south-west angle contains a circular stone staircase leading up to the belfry, the inner wall of which is

cracked immediately below the first floor and under the doorway into the belfry.

The first floor of the tower contains the clock.

There are three bells in the belfry dated 1608-1630 and 1863. The bell-frame is constructed for five bells, and is in a fair condition, but the bell fittings are past repair.

The tower roof is constructed of oak, defective in places, and covered with lead. A small *flèche*, covered with lead in the centre of the roof, is in rather a bad condition, and the weather vane is nearly gone. The flint facing and stone coping of the parapet are loose and displaced in places, and the wet is penetrating into the walls.

The interior of the church is in fair repair. The original font exists and a portion of its cover. There are a few old miserere seats placed against the north and south walls in a dilapidated condition.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that the building is in urgent need of repair, and the Committee trusts that it will be found possible to put the church into a good structural condition at an early date.

Tonge Old Hall, Middleton, Lancs.

The National Trust is interesting itself in Tonge Old Hall, and at its request the building was surveyed by the Society.

It appears to have been built in the beginning of the sixteenth century, and, so far as it now exists, is an excellent example of a timber building of that date. Unfortunately it has fallen into a neglected condition,

most of the glass has been broken out of the windows, the doors removed, and the floors strewn with rubbish.

The north-east and north-west faces of the Old Hall retain their original timber walls on a stone foundation about 2 feet 6 inches above the ground. The walls above the stone foundation of the east and west faces were rebuilt in brickwork apparently in 1703, as the lead heads of the rainwater pipes bear that date.

The north-east face is in fair condition. The timber framing, which is of oak, is very massive, and, with a few exceptions, in sound condition. It is divided into squares of about 2 feet, containing a quatrefoil filled in with plaster, which, in places, has perished. The two windows on the ground floor occupy the original positions, but have modern frames. The brick porch at the east end appears to have been built in recent years.

The north-west face of the building is in a much worse condition than that of the north-east. The gable at the north end has nearly collapsed, the vertical timbers are displaced, and most of the quatrefoil panels are missing. A portion of the stone tiling of the roof has fallen off, and allows the wet to penetrate in several places. The adjoining small gable is in a better condition.

The portion of the wall under the upper window in the large gable is covered with boarding on the face of the old timbers. A modern doorway is roughly formed at the side of the lower window, and some of the timber work cut away. The wall at the ground floor under the small gable is replaced with brickwork, on which deal boards are stuck in imitation of the quatrefoil panels.

The windows on the face and return wall are modern. The front wall of the upper part is missing and the opening boarded up. The return wall is also boarded up, but the old timber work appears to exist.

A portion of the wall at the west end is built up on the face with brickwork of recent date, and only a few of the original timbers appear to exist, including the original entrance door and frame. The portion of building between the small gable and the brick facing at the west end is in rather bad condition. It contains an original window at the ground floor, boarded up on face, but in fair condition.

The brickwork of the south-east and south-west faces is in good condition, with the exception of the gable at the east end of the former. The arch over the ground floor window, which is flat, has settled and cracked the wall over. All the window frames are very poor.

One room on the ground floor is lined with eighteenth century deal panelling, of which a painted panel over the fireplace is partially removed. The fireplace is fitted with a modern grate in the original stone opening. The floors are paved with stone flags, with the exception of the panelled room, which has a boarded floor. An interesting seventeenth century hall table, in rather bad repair, stands in the room with the modern porch.

A cellar exists under the projecting portion of the north-west front, lighted by two stone mullioned windows with areas in front.

The stairs to the upper floors are of solid oak treads. The beams supporting the first floor are very massive.

They are thickly coated with limewash, but appear to be quite sound.

The roof is strongly constructed with oak timbers in sound condition and covered with large stone slates. The two chimney stacks retain their original stone bases up to the level of ridge, with square brick shafts set diagonally above.

The house is of considerable value as a specimen of its period, and could be repaired without further loss of interest if the work were taken in hand without delay, and the Committee hopes that the National Trust will be successful in its efforts to bring about the preservation of the building.

Walpole St. Peter's Church, Norfolk.

With the exception of the tower, which was built in the fourteenth century, this fine building is of fifteenth century date, although the chancel appears to be somewhat later than the nave.

The fabric is in sound condition with the exception of the roofs, and the outside of the clerestory wall on the north side.

A footpath through the churchyard passes under the east end of the chancel, where a subway is formed and the floor of the sanctuary raised considerably above the floor of the chancel.

The roof of the chancel appears to have been renewed about 100 years ago, and is of poor construction. It is covered with cast lead in good repair.

The nave retains its original timber roof, covered with cast lead. Both the timbers and lead are in bad condition.

The roof of the north aisle is in much better condition than that of the nave, and only slight repairs are necessary to the timbers of the south aisle roof, as the lead was renewed about 100 years ago and is in good condition.

It was at one time proposed to renew the roofs of the nave and north aisle at an estimated cost of £2,600. The Society, however, reported to the authorities that both of these roofs could be repaired for about half of that sum, and that thus, apart from the advantage of retaining valuable work, a large sum of money could be saved.

The Committee has much pleasure in reporting that the authorities have decided to adopt the Society's recommendations, and that the works of repair to the roofs will be taken in hand shortly.

St. John's House, Warwick.

The Committee has had some correspondence with the Warwick Castle Estate Office with reference to this most interesting and beautiful seventeenth century building, which resulted in its being surveyed on behalf of the Society, and a report sent to the agent.

The house consists of the front block with a north aspect, and two wings, enclosing a courtyard, on the south side. It is now let to three tenants whose holdings

are separated by the closing of doors in the partition walls which form their divisions.

There are no solid walls inside the house, the partitions being all of timber, many of them panelled.

The outside walls are of grey Warwickshire sandstone, which is used in large squared dressed blocks. The stone itself shows no signs of decay, but a good deal of pointing is needed, and the masonry is badly fissured in parts.

A great deal of the coping of the walls and gables is loose, and will need resetting. The window mullions are, to a large extent, decayed, and in several cases cracked and split.

A full description was given in the report of the repairs necessary for the preservation of the building, and the methods which should be adopted in carrying them out.

The agent has promised to give the report attention, and has informed the Committee that it is the custom of the Estate to carry out such works with the Estate Staff. The Committee has therefore offered, if it is informed when the work is about to be taken in hand, to try to arrange for a professional member to visit the building and give practical advice and directions on the spot as to how it should be done. Failing the work being carried out under the personal direction of the architect, as it recommended, the Committee thinks this offer, if accepted, could not fail to be helpful, and would probably lead to the workmen taking a greater interest in the work.

The agent has stated that, should it be necessary, he will be happy to avail himself of the Society's offer.

Old Town Hall, Watlington, Oxon.

The Old Town Hall at Watlington is situated on a triangular space in the centre of the town, at the junction of four cross streets, and forms a most interesting feature. It has unfortunately been neglected for many years, and now presents a most dilapidated appearance with its broken windows and ruinous roof, through which the wet penetrates.

It is known to have been erected about the year 1664, and consists of a rectangular block running south-east and north-west, with a wing on the south-west side, forming on plan the letter T. The walls are built of hand-made bricks, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness, and weathered to a rich dark red. The angle on the south-east face is filled in with a building about a century later, containing a staircase to the first floor and roof space. A lean-to shed occupies the angle on the north-west face, and was used to store the fire engine.

The lower portion of the building is open, with semi-circular arches on the four faces. The first floor contains two rooms about 34 feet by 18 feet 6 inches, and 14 feet 6 inches square, respectively, and lately used as a Hall and Club Room, but formerly as the Grammar School.

The larger room is well lighted by a three-light window on the north-east side and at the two ends. A window at the north-west end is partly built up, and a doorway formed for access from the hotel opposite, in connection with the County Ball. The smaller room contains a

similar window on the south-west end. The fireplaces are in the interior wall between the two rooms, and, unfortunately, are constructed over the archway, which has caused a depression in the arch of about three inches. A straight vertical joint occurs on each side of the archway, and the brick courses are not in line, which would indicate that the projecting wing was added at a later period.

The roofs are covered with hand-made tiles, in rather bad condition; portions are missing, and the wet penetrates.

The condition of the fabric generally is fairly sound, but many works of repair and strengthening are necessary. These are fully set forth in a report which the Society has provided at the request of the Vicar and others interested, who are trying to raise the necessary funds to repair the building and fit it for some useful purpose.

Hall of the College of Vicars' Choral, Wells, Somerset.

The College of Vicars' Choral, which is a most interesting block of buildings, was visited on behalf of the Society.

The Hall was originally built by Bishop Ralph, of Shrewsbury, about 1350, and was subsequently altered by Bishop Beckington, or his executors, and Richard Pomeroy, in the latter part of the fifteenth century. It measures internally about 55 feet long by a little over 18 feet wide, runs east and west, and forms the south end of the Vicars' Close, the entrance gateway being at the east end of the Hall. The ground floor, which is

believed to have been the original kitchen, is let on lease as a private house.

A wing building stands on the north side of the Hall, and contains a fine stone staircase giving approach to the Hall, over which is a Muniment Room. The north end of the wing forms a tower, giving an entrance to the stairs by three arches—the space between them being vaulted.

The Muniment Room is approached by a spiral staircase from the Hall, and measures internally about 26 feet long by 9 feet 6 inches wide, and opens into another chamber in the tower, at the north end, about 9 feet 6 inches square. A spiral staircase descends from this chamber into a chamber below, the floor of which is formed by the vaulting over the ground floor of the tower.

The whole building is connected with the Cathedral Church by a gallery over what is called the chain gateway. It opens out of the south side of the Hall and lands at the top of the grand Chapter House staircase.

The Hall has had two partitions put across it, thus forming a passage way from the staircase to the gallery, and giving a room on the right and left hand side of it. The right hand room has a Georgian gallery at its west end. The left hand room has a shallow bay window at the east end on the north and south sides, and a grand open fireplace on the south side with a pulpit over formed in the thickness of the wall.

The whole Hall has a pointed barrel vaulted ceiling with oak ribs.

The Muniment Room has a most beautiful open oak

roof with wind braces and an elaborate cornice. The windows have their original oak shutters.

The roofs externally are covered with modern blue slates, like the rest of the Close buildings, and a length of new stone parapet, and some new stonework to the south bay window, have been recently introduced, all of which has been "rubbed" and looks somewhat offensive. Otherwise all that has been described above, with the exception of the chain gateway, and the domestic part of the ground floor, is most valuable unrestored work, and a delight to look upon.

The building, as a whole, was found to be in a good structural condition, but repairs are required. These were set forth in the report which the Committee sent to the Principals of the College of Vicars' Choral.

The Committee pointed out in the report that nothing in the way of imitative work, such as the "restoration" of a chimney top, and a finial to the turret, which had been suggested, should be attempted, but that the works should be confined to those necessary for the preservation of the building.

The Committee received a letter from the Principals to the effect that they had instructed the architect to begin a part of the work, to use as little new material as possible, and to omit the proposed new chimney top and finial to the turret.

This is so far satisfactory, but the Committee would have been glad if it had been possible to arrange for this beautiful building to be repaired under the personal direction of the architect on the spot.

"The Ley," near Weobley, Herefordshire.

This is one of the finest farm-houses in the county. The Committee learnt that the building was in need of repair, and it therefore communicated with the owner and offered to place its experience at his disposal, by visiting and furnishing him with a report as to the works it considered essential for the preservation of the building and fitting it for the use it has to serve.

The Committee received a courteous reply from the owner accepting the Society's offer, and he kindly met its representative at the building.

The entrance front of the house faces north, and is a very fine and complete specimen of timber construction. The hall occupies the centre and its front is recessed within the room on the east and west. It is entered through a very beautiful porch close to the west end, which has the date 1589 over the entrance.

The great charm of the house consists in its beautiful front with its gables, bay windows, and porch, all of which are fortunately in good preservation and unrestored. The oak has weathered to a most delightful colour, which should not be interfered with on any account. Most of the original plaster filling between the timbers is in good preservation.

The Society in its report fully set forth how it considered the building should be dealt with, and how it thought the accommodation of the building could be improved without interfering with the present arrangement of the main house.

The owner informed the Committee that he had read the report with very great interest, and that he thought with regard to many of the suggestions made in it that there would not be any insuperable difficulty in carrying them out. He added that before commencing operations he proposed making a minute examination of the premises, and will be only too happy if he can carry out the Society's recommendations, including the retention of the stone-slated roof, a point to which the Committee attaches much importance.

West Walton Church, Wisbech.

This valuable and well-known building is to be repaired under the auspices of the Society as soon as the sum of £1,025, the estimated cost of the works, has been raised.

The church consists of a chancel, nave, with north and south aisles, and south porch. There is also a detached bell tower on the south side of the churchyard.

Both the church and tower are exceedingly fine examples of thirteenth century work. Unfortunately the church has been altered by the removal of the original aisles, which were very narrow and extended to the east end of the chancel. The present very wide aisles appear to have been built in the sixteenth century, and do not extend beyond the nave.

The east wall of the chancel appears to have been rebuilt in the eighteenth century, and has a window of that date. Where this wall joins the north and south

walls there is a vertical straight joint, which shows that the east end has settled away from the old work. Another crack occurs in the south wall, over the eastmost abutment of the arcade, which formerly gave access to the aisle and consists of two bays, which are walled up and a doorway formed in the eastmost one. The eastmost arch, on the north side, is walled up and a small organ chamber formed against the bay, with a lean-to roof covered with slates.

The chancel roof is of oak, high pitched, and covered with cast lead. It has the date 1730 on one of the tie-beams.

With the exception of four old bench ends of fifteenth century date the fittings of the chancel are modern.

The nave arcades consist of six bays of richly moulded and pointed arches, supported on circular piers with detached clustered shafts of Purbeck marble and beautifully carved capitals. The clerestory is ornamented with an arcade of pointed arches, with a lancet window in every alternate arch. The windows on the north side are walled up.

The roof of the nave, [of steep pitch, is of fifteenth century work, and is divided into six bays by principals with tie-beams, which have shaped brackets framed into upright pieces, which should bear against the face of the wall, instead of which they hang down clear of the walls, in front of the arches of the clerestory arcade.

The west wall leans outwards considerably, from the ground level upwards; two large buttresses of seventeenth century date have arrested the movement. This wall

retains the original west doorway, over which a late fifteenth century window, of five lights, has been inserted.

The south aisle retains portions of the sixteenth century roof, which, owing to the increased width of the aisle, covers the under portion of the clerestory arcade on the outside. The south porch, which has a modern deal roof of steep pitch, was shortened to a considerable extent when the aisle was widened. The inner doorway is the original thirteenth century entrance, reinstated when the aisle was widened, and is a beautiful example of the period. The eastmost window of the aisle was also reinstated. It is of two lights and very beautiful. A built-up doorway to the east of this window appears to be of similar date. The other windows in this aisle are of sixteenth century date.

The roof of the north aisle appears to have been renewed in 1742 and 1807, judging from the dates on the principal rafters. The north doorway appears to be the only portion of the original work reinstated. The east and west windows are of five lights, and were probably built when this aisle was widened. There are four windows in the north wall of eighteenth century date, which, with portions rebuilt in brick, would seem to indicate that the wall was rebuilt when the present roof was constructed.

The floors of both the chancel and nave are paved with bricks and tiles.

The font is of the fifteenth century, and a modern vestry is screened off the west end of the south aisle.

The detached bell tower appears to be in excellent

condition. There is a peal of five bells dated 1620, 1629, 1699, and 1708, hung on a massive oak frame.

The building generally is in urgent need of repair, and the Committee hopes that the sum needed will be forthcoming at an early date.

Winchester Cathedral.

In our last report we promised to give further information about the work this year. The Committee regrets to say that it has not sufficiently full information to enable it to make a satisfactory report.

When the work was begun pumping was resorted to, to enable excavation for the new foundations to be carried out. The Society wrote very strongly to the Dean, pointing out the danger of withdrawing water from underneath the building. The Dean justified the course of action by saying that no harm could be done, as the water which was pumped out contained no sand or other material.

Since the work of underpinning the south wall of the choir aisle was begun, it is reported that considerable settlement has occurred in other parts of the building, and, if this is the case, it is very significant that these movements should coincide, in time, with the work of underpinning.

The following is a list of Buildings which have come before the Society during the year :—

- | | |
|--|---|
| Abinger Hammer, Surrey, Cross-ways Farm. | Broughton Church, Oxon., Paintings. |
| Abinger Hammer, Surrey, Hatch Farm. | Buckland Brewer Church, Devon. |
| Adderbury Church, Oxon., Wilmot Pew. | Buckland-in-the-Moor Church, Devonshire. |
| Aldershot, Hants., Old Parish Church. | Bucklebury Church, Berkshire. |
| Amesbury Church, Wilts. | Budock Church, Cornwall, Screen. |
| Armthwaite Bridge, Cumberland. | Bunbury Church, Cheshire. |
| Askham Church, Notts. | Bunton Church, Sussex. |
| Athens, The Erechtheion. | Burford Church, Oxon. |
| Attleborough Church, Norfolk. | Cahors, France, Bridge at |
| Aylesbury, Bucks., Old Grammar School. | Campton, Beds., Manor House |
| Aylesford, Kent, Bridge. | Canterbury Castle, Kent. |
| Ayot St. Lawrence, Herts., Ruins of Church. | Carnarvon Castle, Carnarvonshire. |
| Ayr, N.B., Auld Brig of | Carreg Corwen, Merioneths., Owen Glyndwrs Prison House. |
| Bacton Church, Herefordshire | Cawston Church, Norfolk. |
| Barningham Parva Church, Norfolk. | Charney Bassett, Berks., Manor House. |
| Berry Pomeroy Church, Devon. | Chesterton Church, Hunts. |
| Bilsington Priory, Kent. | Chichester, Sussex, "The Guildhall." |
| Birdlip, Buckholt, Gloucestershire, Roman Villa. | Chil Weston Church, Somerset. |
| Bishops Cleeve Church, Glos. | Chil Weston Church Tower, Somerset. |
| Blofield Church, Norfolk. | Churchdown Church, Glos. |
| Blythburgh Church, Suffolk. | Churchill Church, Worcs. |
| Boston, Lincs., St. Botolph's Church. | Clare Church, Suffolk. |
| Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts., Saxon Church. | Claverley, Salop, Old Parsonage. |
| Bradley Church, Staffordshire. | Combe Longa Church, Oxon. |
| Bradwell Church, Suffolk. | Combe Pyne Church, Devon, Communion Plate. |
| Breckles Hall, Norfolk. | Compton Church, Surrey. |
| Bristol, Gloucestershire, The Old Dutch House | Corhampton Church, Hants. |
| | Cosby Church, Leicester. |
| | Coventry, Warwickshire, The Old Grammar School. |
| | Croyland Abbey, Lincs. |

- Cuckney Church, Notts.
 Cwmdu Church, Breconshire.
 Cyprus, Antiquities of
 Dartford Church, Kent.
 Denbigh, St. Hilary's Church.
 Dengie Church, Essex.
 Dennington Church, Suffolk.
 Doddbrooke, Devon, Peter Pindar's Barn.
 Doddington, Cumberland, Border Tower.
 Dudley Castle, Worcestershire.
 Dunchurch Church, Warwickshire.
 Eaglescliffe Church, Durham.
 East Grinstead, Sussex, Sackville College.
 East Ham, Essex, Anne Boleyn's Castle.
 East Sheen, Surrey, Temple Grove.
 Eccles Church, Lancs.
 Exeter Cathedral, Devonshire.
 Farpham Church Tower, Surrey.
 Flamstead Church, Herts.
 Flatford Bridge, East Bergholt, Suffolk.
 Fordington St. George Church, Dorchester, Dorset.
 Garsdon Church, Wilts.
 Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.
 Great Bricet Church, Suffolk.
 Great Grimsby, Lincs., St. James's Church.
 Guernsey, St. Sampson's Church.
 Guildford, Surrey, St. Catherine's Chapel.
 Haddington Church, N.B.
 Haddiscoe Church, Norfolk.
 Hadley, Droitwich, Worcestershire, Ancient House.
 Hampstead Norrey, Berkshire, Cross, etc.
 Harborough Church, Oxon.
 Headbourne Worthy, Hants, St. Swithun's Church.
 Hereford, All Saints' Church.
 Hesselton Church, Suffolk.
 Hexham Abbey, Northumberland.
 High Wycombe, Bucks., Hospital of St. John the Baptist.
 Hill Croome Church, Worcestershire.
 Hinton, Middlesex.
 Hitchin, Herts., St. Mary's Church.
 Holcombe Rogus, Devon, Poor House.
 Holyrood Abbey, N.B.
 Honington Church, Suffolk.
 Horsell Church, Surrey.
 Hough Church, Lincs.
 Houghton Conquest House, nr. Ampthill, Beds.
 Indian Monuments.
 Ivychurch Church, Kent.
 Jerusalem, Church of the Holy Sepulchre.
 Kedington Church, Suffolk.
 Kirkburton Church, Yorkshire.
 Kirkdale Church, Yorkshire.
 Kirklington Church, Oxon.
 Lavenham Church, Suffolk, Spring Pew.
 Leake Church, Yorkshire.
 Leicester, St. Margaret's Church Tower.
 Lilbourne Church, Northants.
 Little Hampden Church, Bucks.
 Little Washbourne Church, Worcestershire.
 Livesey Old Hall, nr. Blackburn, Lancs.
 Llandudno, Carnarvonshire, St. Tudnos Church.
 Llanengan Church, Carnarvonshire.
 Langollen Church Tower, Denbighs.
 Llaniestyn Church, Carnarvonshire.
 London, Bishopsgate Street, E.C., Crosby Hall.
 London, Chelsea Hospital.

- London, The Guildhall.
 London, Kingsland Road, Alms-
 houses.
 London, Lewisham, Colfe's Alms-
 houses.
 London, London Wall, E.C.,
 St. Alphge Church.
 London, Wandsworth, 102, High
 Street.
 Lower Halstow Church, Kent.
 Lutton Church, Northants.
 Lydbury North Church, Salop.
 Macclesfield, Cheshire, Ancient
 House.
 Madley Church, Herefordshire.
 Maidstone, Kent, All Saints'
 Church.
 Maidstone, Kent, Ancient Gate
 House.
 Malvern Priory Church, Worces-
 tershire.
 Marham Church, Cornwall.
 Martin Church, Lincs.
 Mere Church, Wilts.
 Mildenhall Church, Suffolk.
 Mold Church, Flints.
 Monewden Church, Suffolk.
 Montrose Academy, N.B.
 Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Northum-
 berland, Proctor's Building.
 Newport Church Tower, Salop.
 New Shoreham Church, Sussex.
 Newton Regis Church, Warwick-
 shire.
 North Petherton Church, Somer-
 set.
 Northumberland, Roman Wall.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St.
 Mary Coslany.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St.
 Peter Hungate.
 Oswestry, Salop, Croeswylan
 Stone.
 Oxenton Church, Gloucestershire.
 Patricio Church, Breconshire.
 Pembroke Church, Hereford-
 shire.
 Pirton Church, Herts.
 Plaistow, Sussex, Quennel House.
 Poole, Dorset, Town Cellars.
 Portinscale, Keswick, Cumber-
 land, Bridge at.
 Potter Heigham Church, Nor-
 folk.
 Powderham Church, Devon.
 Rauceby Church, Grantham,
 Lincs.
 Rievaulx Abbey, Yorks.
 Rockland St. Peter's Church,
 Norfolk.
 Rosyth, N.B., Castle.
 Runwell Church, Essex.
 Rushden Church, Herts.
 St. Bee's Church, Cumberland.
 Selby Abbey, Yorks.
 Sellinge Church, Kent.
 Shap Abbey Tower, Westmore-
 land.
 Shelford Church, Notts., The
 Stanhope Chapel.
 Sheriff Hutton, Church, Yorks.
 Shimpling Church, Norfolk.
 Shrewsbury Abbey Church, Salop.
 Shrewsbury, Salop, Ancient
 Houses.
 Shrewsbury, Salop, Rowley's
 Mansion, Hills Lane.
 Snaith Church, Yorks.
 Sonning Bridge, Oxon.
 Southover, Lewes, Sussex, Anne
 of Cleves House.
 South Pickenham Church,
 Norfolk.
 Stanford-on-Avon Church, Rugby.
 Stanground Church, nr. Peter-
 borough.
 Stoke Golding Church, Leicester-
 shire.
 Stoke Poges Church, Bucks.
 Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick-
 shire, The Garrick Inn.
 Tarvin Church, Cheshire.
 Tattershall Castle, Lincs.
 Theydon Garnon, Essex, Church
 House.
 Thompson Church, Norfolk.

- Thornaby-on-Tees Church, Yorks.
 Thornton Steward Church, Yorks.
 Tonge Old Hall, Middleton,
 Lancs.
 Tuddenham St. Mary's Church,
 Suffolk.
 Upholland Church, Lancs.
 Upleadon Church, Gloucester-
 shire.
 Upton, near Tenbury, Worcester-
 shire, Farm House.
 Upton-on-Severn, Worcestershire,
 The Old Church.
 Walpole St. Peter's Church,
 Norfolk.
 Warwick, St. John's House.
 Watlington, Oxon., Old Town
 Hall.
 Wells, Somerset, Hall of the Col-
 lege of Vicars' Choral.
 Weobley, Herefordshire, " The
 Ley," near
 Westbury-on-Trym Church,
 Gloucestershire.
 Westhorpe Church, Suffolk.
 West Stow Hall, Suffolk.
 West Thurrock Church, Essex.
 West Walton Church, Norfolk.
 Whalley Church, Lancs.
 Whaplode Church, Lincs.
 Widecombe Church, Devon.
 Willoughby-in-the-Wolds Church,
 Notts.
 Winchester Cathedral, Hants.
 Winchester, Hants., St. Cross
 Hospital.
 Winfarthing Church, Norfolk.
 Wolverhampton, Staffs., St.
 Peter's Church.
 Wooton Wawen Church, War-
 wickshire.
 Wootton Bassett, Wilts., Old
 Town Hall.
 Worcester, Ancient House at.
 Worcester, Crypt at.
 Wyke Regis Church, Dorset.
 York Minster, Glass.
 York, St. William's College.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1906.

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance at the 31st December, 1905, as per last statement	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
" Receipts during the year 1906:—						
Donations	3	3	0			
Amount received for the Church of St. Peter Hungate, Norwich	25	0	0	28	3	0
				<u>£363</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

PAYMENTS.

By Payments during the year 1906:—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rector of St. Peter Hungate, Norwich, for Church Repair Fund				255	0	0
Vicar of Hough, Lincolnshire, for Church Repair Fund				8	0	0
" Cash at London City & Midland Bank, 31st December, 1906				263	0	0
				100	4	3
				<u>£363</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

WILLIAM SIMMONS, Auditor.

7th May, 1907.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1906.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.

To Amount on Deposit at the London City & Midland Bank, as per last statement	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
" Interest on Deposit	68	11	7			
	1	16	4			
	<u>£70</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>			

PAYMENTS.

By amount on Deposit at the London City & Midland Bank	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
				70	7	11
				<u>£70</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

WILLIAM SIMMONS, Auditor.

7th May, 1907.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Dr.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1906.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1905, as per last statement	26 6 5½	By Payments during the year 1906:—	
" Receipts during the year 1906:—		Printing	34 5 5
Annual and Life Subscriptions	29 12 6	Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Ex-	
Donation	1 1 0	penses	29 8 0
Received for Travelling Ex-		Members' Travelling Ex-	
penses in visiting buildings		penses	12 15 2
and Sale of Reports	7 8 4	Secretary's Salary	120 0 0
	300 1 10	Clerk's Salary	91 0 0
		Rent of Office	25 0 0
			312 8 7
		" Cash at London City & Midland Bank, 31st December, 1906	10 0 1
		" Cash at Office	3 19 7½
			13 19 8½
			£326 8 3½

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

7th May, 1907.

WILLIAM SIMMONS, Auditor.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION. £1 1s. or 10s. 6d.

Subscriptions to be sent to the Secretary, THACKERAY TURNER,
20, Buckingham Street, Adelphi.

Post Office Orders should be made payable at the General Post
Office. Cheques should be crossed "London City and Midland
Bank."

Bankers :—London City and Midland Bank, Limited, 449, Strand,
W.C.

* These form the Committee.

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*Sir L. Alma-Tadema, O.M., R.A., 34, *Grove End Road, St. John's
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 Mrs. T. J. Cobden-Sanderson, *River House, Upper Mall, Hammersmith, W.*
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 *Sidney Colvin, *British Museum, W.C.*

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Walter Crane, 13, *Holland Street, Kensington, W.*

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Mrs. Leonard Darwin, 12, *Egerton Place, S.W.*

W. E. Darwin, 11, *Egerton Place, S.W.*

Arthur Irwin Dament.

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H. M. Firth, *Knowle, Ashburton, Devon.*

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 A. G. Wyand.
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 Miss Harriot Yorke, 190, *Marylebone Road, N.W.*
 J. R. Yorke, 2, *Chesham Street, W.*
 Stewart Young, 20, *Montagu Square, W.*
 Mrs. Stewart Young, 20, *Montagu Square, W.*
 Count Zorzi, *Venice.* (Hon. Mem.)

If any Member finds his or her name incorrectly given, the Secretary will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following Members :

- Captain C. E. Arundel.
 Sir Godfrey Lushington, K.C.B.
 Mrs. Massingberd.
 Professor H. F. Pelham.
 Miss Helen Taylor.
 Mrs. Thackeray Turner.
 Rev. C. F. Wyatt.



14.7

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